

MING? 46

check



ndi



THE TIMES

TUESDAY APRIL 27 1999

No. 66,498

http://www.the-times.co.uk



This year's most talked-about political memoir
Compared with the reality,
Yes Minister was understated
George Walden's poison pen
pages 16,17

FREE BOOKS
SCHOOLS
SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL YEAR OF READING

LAST CHANCE WEEK
Five million
tokens to be
collected
Token page 26



30p
EVERY
WEEKDAY

Europe from £34 return - details page 38

Fantasy Football page 24

Police seek killer with a grudge linked to television programme

Jill Dando died from bullet in the head

By ADRIAN LEE, MICHAEL HARVEY AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

POLICE hunting the killer of the television presenter Jill Dando were last night examining hundreds of cases she dealt with on *Crimewatch UK* in the belief that she was murdered by someone with a grudge against the programme.

Miss Dando, who was 38, was shot dead in broad daylight on the doorstep of her £400,000 terrace home in Fulham, west London, at about 11.30 yesterday morning. Police said last night that she had suffered a single gunshot wound to her head.

Her next-door neighbour Richard Hughes, a financial trader, said he heard her car returning home, the blip of its alarm activating and, 40

seconds later, a scream. "It was more of a surprise scream as if she had turned round and seen somebody," he said.

He then watched as a well-dressed man in his 30s walked calmly away from the scene in the direction of the River Thames. The man was white, clean shaven and well-groomed and was carrying a mobile phone. "He was as cool as a cucumber. I thought it could have been a friend," Mr Hughes said.

By the time he and two other neighbours reached Miss Dando she was unconscious in the doorway of her three-bedroom house on Gowan Avenue. The door was closed and it looked as if she had slumped against it.

"There was blood everywhere. She

did not appear to be breathing," Mr Hughes added. "There was blood coming from what appeared to be a wound behind her ear and running down her neck."

Two paramedic teams and a helicopter crew were sent to the scene. They found her suffering from serious head injuries and spent several minutes trying to save her life there. She was then taken to Charing Cross Hospital, three minutes away, where she was certified dead at 1.03pm.

Her fiancé Alan Farthing was called from his gynaecology clinic at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to be asked to identify the body.

Two others who went to her aid had been involved in a coffee morning just down the street for young mothers with toddlers. Charlene de Rosney said a friend arrived at her home and told them she had seen a woman slumped in the doorway of number 29. Two of the women quickly went to the scene and called an ambulance. They described Miss Dando as looking blue and lifeless. "They said she was ashen, they didn't come back for 45 minutes and that's when I knew it must be serious," Ms de Rosney said. "I am just so shocked and I feel edgy now. Jill Dando was just very pleasant to everybody."

Miss Dando's death brought tributes from the Queen, the Prime Minister, celebrities and colleagues. Within hours, hundreds of viewers had signed an on-line book of remembrance. The Queen said that she was shocked and saddened by the murder and Tony Blair, who was told of the killing while preparing his Commons statement on the Nato summit, paid tribute to a "hugely talented" public figure.

Last year it was reported that an admirer put a note through Miss Dando's front door after she was pictured in a magazine with Mr Farthing, a consultant gynaecologist whom she met on a blind date. They were planning to marry in September. John Hols, a 62-year-old bachelor, admitted that he had been accused of harassing Miss Dando, but said it was a "bit unfair". He had sent Valentine cards and waited for her outside the BBC studios, but had stopped contacting her after seeing the photograph.

The BBC director of television Alan Yentob said he had been informed about her security concerns. "Of course we were concerned about her



Jill Dando, who died of a single gunshot wound to the head outside her Fulham home yesterday

safety. We did hear the story about the stalker. We live in that kind of dangerous and unpredictable world. She was a professional broadcaster and she had to get on with it, clearly this left her exposed as well."

An emotional Nick Ross, who presented *Crimewatch UK* with her, said: "The paradox is that we used to say on *Crimewatch* that a crime like this is very rare. In fact, maybe it's not a paradox - it's his us like lightning, like a bolt out of the blue, it's astonishing, it really is astonishing. She was irritated from time to time, there

had been somebody stalking her, but to be honest that really goes with the turt and I don't think there has been a time, certainly that she ever confided in me, where anything untoward like this or even remotely like this seems possible."

Detectors said that they would be looking at the hundreds of cases Miss Dando dealt with on the programme in case someone with a grudge was responsible for the killing.

Last night her brother, Nigel Dando, said the family had last met over the Easter weekend when she

brought Dr Farthing to discuss details for their summer wedding. "Jill was so looking forward to that and was on top form. She was a devoted daughter and a loving sister and we shall miss her. People who knew her through her television work will miss her. Her roots were still in Weston. She did charity work there and still loved it here." Her 81-year-old father, Jack, was too upset to say anything.

Miss Dando had intended to slow

Continued on page 2, col 5

Dissenting voice seen as proof of split in Belgrade

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY Blair and other Nato leaders seized on the first signs of a serious rift in Belgrade yesterday after the Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister called on the regime to stop lying to the people.

George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, said that President Milosevic's regime was beginning to crack under the united pressure of the alliance and that an interview given by Vuk Draskovic "blew a hole in the facade of Belgrade unity".

Mr Draskovic, who has a reputation as a maverick, told the local Studio B television: "People who lead this country must say clearly where we stand. They must say what will be left of Serbia in 20 days if the bombing continues."

"The people should be told that Nato is not facing a breakdown, that Russia will not help Yugoslavia militarily and that the world's public opinion is against us."

Downing Street said a split was emerging and that there was clearly "outright dissent at the heart of Milosevic's regime".

Mr Blair said that many within the Belgrade Government and army were concerned at what Mr Milosevic had done to his country. "He has bankrupted it, its entire infrastructure is now being dismantled and he has become a complete pariah in his own region," Mr Draskovic's words were a clear indication of those strains, he added.

Nato said that Belgrade was beginning to realise the seriousness of its situation. Jamie Shea, the alliance spokesman, said in Washington that Mr Draskovic, formerly the leader of the Serbian opposition,

was "no friend of Nato" and had in the past espoused Serb nationalism.

"The statements that he made last night show that there are senior members of the Yugoslav Government that are beginning to recognise the reality of the situation Yugoslavia is in," he said.

In an upbeat statement on the Nato summit in Washington over the weekend, Mr Blair told MPs that there had been total and unified commitment by all members of the alliance to defeat and reverse the

INSIDE

'Our Government continues to behave with an ambiguity that is taking me all my self-control not to link directly with political fear of xenophobic daubers and letter-writers'

Libby Purves on the refugees, page 20

War reports.....13-15
Cycle of violence.....18
Leading article.....21

policy of ethnic cleansing in Kosovo. "Each leader began his statement by saying Nato will and must prevail. It is our collective task now to make that victory, of justice over evil, a reality for Kosovo's long-suffering people."

But he also made plain that the use of ground forces before a peace settlement remained on the agenda. He repeated the formula that President Milosevic had no veto over Nato's actions and emphasised several times that forces were being built up in the region.

- TV & RADIO50.51
- WEATHER26
- CROSSWORDS26.52
- LETTERS21
- OBITUARIES23
- LIBBY PURVES20
- ARTS36-38
- CHESS & BRIDGE49
- COURT & SOCIAL22
- LAW39.41
- BODY & MIND18
- BUSINESS27-33

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 50; Belgium B Frs 110; Canada \$3.50; Cayman Is \$4.00; Cyprus £11.20; Denmark Dkr 22.00; Finland Fmk 30.50; France FRF 17.00; Germany DM 5.50; Gibraltar Gp; Greece Dr 750; Netherlands Fl 6.50; Italy L 5.000; Luxembourg Lf 100; Malaysia M; Mexico Mx 25.00; Norway Kr 25.00; Portugal Esc 350; Spain Ptas 400; Sweden Skr 25.00; Switzerland S Frs 6.00; Tunisia Din 3.200; USA \$3.50.
Periodicals postage paid at Rahway NJ Postmaster: Send address corrections to: The Times c/o Mercury International 365 Blair Road Avenel NJ 07001.



Building society windfall

By SUSAN EMMETT

MORE than three million members of Bradford & Bingley Building Society are set to receive a windfall of up to £1,000 each after members voted in favour of the society's conversion to a bank.

The result represents a resounding defeat for the board, which ran a £5 million campaign against conversion. A majority of 62 per cent voted in favour of abandoning the society's mutual status to become a bank with a stock market listing.

But savers and borrowers will have to wait at least another year before receiving their windfalls. The decision by Bradford & Bingley members is likely to spark a new round of so-called carpetbagging by speculators seeking to open accounts at other mutual building societies that might floor on the stock market.

Business, page 27

A shaken 007 stirs the Scots to rescue SNP

Gillian Harris on Sean Connery's political debut

SEAN CONNERY'S role yesterday was not to save a country, capitalism or even a girl but a flagging election campaign that has run out of steam.

Connery is 68, long past the age when, as 007, he used to outwit the world's deadliest villains and save democracy for HMG.

But yesterday he was back on duty, called out of retirement by the Scottish National Party to confront a challenge almost as grave as those he used to face at the hands of Goldfinger or Dr No.

The SNP, adrift by 14 points in the opinion polls, is in trouble. Its campaign seems dead in the water, its arch-opponents, Labour, are heading for a seemingly unstoppable victory on May 6.

Time for the man whose shaggy S's are almost as famous as his deep brown eyes



"If Bond can destroy Goldfinger, Blofeld and Smersh, surely he can see off Donald Dewar?"

and crooked grin, to take centre stage and save the nation for independence.

He made his move at a rally in Edinburgh where the invit-

ed audience of 300 SNP activists gave him a rapturous reception as he stroled to the podium wearing a grey suit and maroon tie.

Connery put on his glasses, cleared his throat and began to speak. "Fellow members of the SNP," he said in his distinctive accent and was immediately drowned out by cheers.

His four-minute speech, which he had written himself, set out a vision for Scotland's future.

"Whatever I have done or attempted to do for Scotland has always been for her and not for my own benefit. I defy anyone to prove otherwise."

"My position on Scotland has never changed in 30-odd years. Scotland should be nothing less than equal with all of the other nations of the world."

Connery spoke of the referendum

Continued on page 7, col 1

The final pages of books offer

By HANNAH BETTS

MORE than one hundred million tokens have been redeemed by schools through *The Times*, and organisers are bracing themselves for a deluge of millions more.

The final token in the Free Books for Schools offer will be printed on Friday, leaving just three days for schools to add to their totals. However, that still means that several million tokens will be available in *The Times*, *The Sun* and on packs of Walkers snack-foods, so schools can add to the half a million new books already ordered.

Wednesbury Oak Primary School in Tipton, West Midlands has redeemed the most tokens so far with 104,621, and *Biz*, a collection of Second World War stories by Robert Westall is the most frequently requested title.

Token, page 26

You'll love your phone bill!

Genuinely low-cost calls to Europe and beyond - all day, every day - round the clock, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.

FRANCE	8p	NO need to change your phone number.	
A MINUTE		NO monthly fee.	
24 HOURS A DAY		NO connection charge.	
		NO hidden costs.	

Country	BT	Savings
Australia	8p	49p 84%
Canada	8p	24p 67%
France	8p	28p 71%
Germany	8p	28p 71%
Japan	14p	67p 79%
USA	5p	24p 79%

And many other destinations!

0800 358 2223

AXS

Police seek Crimewatch clues

Detectives sift through cases from television series in search for clues to killer, writes Adam Fresco

DETECTIVES yesterday began sifting through the hundreds of cases featured on *Crimewatch UK* while presented by Jill Dando looking for possible links with her murder.

Colleagues from the show yesterday expressed fears that the killing was linked to the show and may have been a revenge attack from one of the people she helped to bring to justice.

As the BBC tried to come to terms with the murder, executives said they would be looking at the issue of security for their presenters to see if it needed to be tighter.

At present Miss Dando, as with all presenters, would have been driven to and from her home to the studios in West London. Apart from that there was thought to be no need to offer her or any other presenter any extra protection.

Last year Miss Dando was stalked by an obsessive fan but did not think he was a threat. She spoke to Nick Ross, her co-presenter, about the problem. He said: "But only in the sense of being an irritant. She hadn't mentioned anything that might cause her anxiety."

"She certainly never said to me that she was frightened or fearful, that something terrible could come of this."

Mr Ross said yesterday that when told of her death he wondered if it could be linked to their series which she began working on in 1995.

Mr Ross, who described the presenter as "enormously popular" among her BBC colleagues, said: "One of the first things that ran through my mind was if it could possibly be connected with *Crimewatch*."

"But we don't go around shooting the barriers, the police or the judges in this country — let alone television presenters. I can only imagine it must have been someone completely deranged. Jill was not the sort of person to attract any enemies. That is why it is so appalling."

Jill Dando described herself as having "the girl-next-door demeanour that some people like and which others find a

turnoff. I'm not a sex symbol and I'm not telly totty so I don't know what the appeal is."

Dismayed at how some in the BBC hierarchy privately dismissed her as "Miss Blandy", she said: "Just because I've got blonde hair and haven't been to Bosnia doesn't mean I'm a bimbo."

Her breakthrough to the national network came in 1988 when aged 26 she was asked to join BBC's *Breakfast Time*, filling in for women presenters on maternity leave. "It was the county girl coming to the big city and I was overawed," she said.

Some critics dismissed her as prim but the many male admirers in her audience disagreed, among them senior BBC executives who in memos praised her "concealed, docile sexiness".

While the tabloids began to pester her for details of her private life she carefully concealed her affair with her boss at *Breakfast Time*, Bob Wheaton.

When she was later asked if she wanted to present *Crimewatch*, she confessed to having doubts whether to present the police series, asking Nick Ross whether he had ever been threatened. "I was aware this job could mean I was putting myself in the firing line."

She had a sheltered upbringing by over-protective parents who feared for her after she underwent life saving heart surgery as a toddler. Born with a hole in the heart doctors at the Bristol Royal Infirmary told her parents when she was three they couldn't wait any longer to operate or she would die.

Her death has forced the BBC into a review of security. Alan Yentob, Director of Television for the BBC, said: "Clearly the security of presenters is something we will want to look at."

A spokesman added: "Presenters of *Crimewatch* had a higher awareness of crime and security because of the nature of what they did but you cannot legislate in advance for a moment of madness."

"People who present news are public figures and it would



The high-profile faces of Jill Dando, from her new BBC antiques series, top, to presenting the *Holiday* programme, *Crimewatch UK*, and the *Six O'Clock News*

be impossible to guard every television presenter day and night. We will look at the circumstances of her death and if it turns out it was linked to her career as a presenter it is something we would want to examine."

The *Crimewatch* programme has featured more than 1,700 cases leading to more than 600 arrests. The monthly show's one in three success rate is considerably

better than the national average clear-up rate of 26 per cent.

The murders of Linda Russell and her daughter Megan were undoubtedly the highest-profile appeal made while she was fronting the show.

Two *Crimewatch* reconstructions of the savage hammer attack in Kent produced more than 600 calls — including one that led police to Michael Stone. Last October Stone was

jailed for life for murdering the mother and daughter and battering Josie to within inches of her life.

In her last *Crimewatch* programme on Tuesday she appealed for information on a man molesting children in Essex, highlighted the death of a Swedish tourist who was pulled from a bus and an armed robbery in Cheltenham where a quantity of valuables and money was taken.

Car-jackers operating in north London and a bag-snatcher who dragged a Swedish tourist to her death were also in her and co-host Nick Ross's sights last week.

A spokeswoman for the programme said yesterday the items had generated a "good response" but police had not reported any arrests.

Her new series, *Antiques Inspectors*, where a team looks in garden sheds and garages

for antiques, started on Sunday but the BBC is undecided whether to show the rest of the series, which has already been recorded.

Roger Cook, the investigative television reporter, has received many death threats over the years he has been exposing crooks and often has at least two bodyguards with him when out filming.

Mr Cook, 55, has suffered 21 attacks and was threatened at

gunpoint four times during the 12-year series. Central, which makes the series *The Cook Report*, refused to comment yesterday on further security measures taken to protect the presenter.

He was once warned by police to check under his car for bombs every time he went out after a contract was put out on him by an underworld boss.

Features, page 18

Somerset seaside resort mourns favourite daughter

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

WESTON-SUPER-MARE was last night mourning its favourite daughter.

Although she travelled the world and became a household name Miss Dando never lost touch with the Somerset town where she grew up and later spent four years as a cub reporter.

She started her career on the local weekly newspaper, the *Weston and Somerset Mercury*, where her father Jack, now in his 80s, was chief compositor and her older brother, Nigel, was a reporter.

Mr Dando, 47, first heard of his sister's death in a television newscast. Speaking at his father's bungalow in Weston last night he said: "I was working in the newsroom of the *Bristol Evening Post* when I got a call to say Jill had been involved in an incident. I decided to follow it up myself by making a couple of calls when a newscast came on one of the TV screens in the office to say that Jill had been killed."

"We are devastated by what has happened to Jill. It is simply unimaginable why anyone should want to end her life in this tragic way."

"The open, friendly, approachable personality who appeared on our TV screens was no act. I last saw her on Easter Sunday, when she and

her fiancé, Alan Farthing, came over to my house near Bath and we all had Sunday lunch. She was on good form. She was looking forward to her wedding. We were all looking forward to that so much... now this."

Few places are bleaker than a holiday resort out of season but a particular pall hung over Jill Dando's home town yesterday. The town had been looking forward to emerging from its winter hibernation but in the bus queues and the cafés there was only glum faces and one topic of conversation.

On the windswept seafront where the grey sea merged with the grey sky, a solitary old man hunched against the wind as he read the front-page news in the evening paper.

The current editor of the *Mercury*, where Miss Dando's career began in 1979, Judi Kiesel, said: "Jill was Weston's favourite daughter. The whole town is in shock."

Gordon Wilsner, the paper's chief reporter for 40 years and Miss Dando's men-

tor, remembers a lively, enthusiastic personality who played a leading role in the Weston Dramatic Society and had unusually good access to local government. "She never hid her ambition to get into broadcasting, but while she was here she always seemed to enjoy the job. She was a great favourite," he said. "One year, I recall, the Mayor of Weston was a bachelor who had his sister as his Lady Mayoress but if there was a function she couldn't attend, he'd ask Jill instead."

Jeremy Williams, the former Editor of the *Mercury* who gave her that first job at the age of 16, said: "It was clear from the start how good she would be. She was very friendly, outgoing and really interested in people. Those qualities stayed with her throughout her career and she never changed, even though she became a star."

"She was always friendly and bubbly and nothing was too much trouble and went to great lengths to put people at ease. If you think of someone you would want around for dinner it would be Jill because you knew you would get a relaxed fun evening."

Miss Dando, whose mother died of cancer aged 52, helped raise over £150,000 for a hospice in Weston and opened the building in 1996.



Jill Dando in 1988, when she worked for regional TV

No rest for the prisoners of fame

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

JILL DANDO's death appears to have brought to London a scourge that for decades has made US stars prisoners of fame, surrounded night and day by almost presidential levels of security.

Steven Spielberg and Madonna are merely the most recent household names to testify in court against obsessive stalkers who, not satisfied with an autograph, set out to share their idols' lives, or even end them.

These two were among the lucky ones. On a summer night in Miami, in 1997, Gianni Versace was shot at point-blank range outside his house. The killing showed the risk public figures run in the

US when choosing to step outside the security cordon that comes as a price of their celebrity. Since the gruesome killing of Roman Polanski's wife, the actress Sharon Tate, by Charles Manson's followers in 1969, stopping stalkers has been as much of a preoccupation for Hollywood royalty as pleasing fans.

Security guards and cameras are the norm at stars' homes in Los Angeles, as are bodyguards for even the shortest outing. Younger celebrities who underestimate the risk do so at their peril. Brad Pitt was fortunate last year that a young woman who broke into his home only wanted to wear his pyjamas and sleep in his bed.

Others live either invisibly, except for tightly controlled public appearances, or

with hair-trigger anxiety. The Spielbergs, like Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman, live behind anonymous gates and dense woods on streets in Pacific Palisades where patrol cars from private security firms question strangers.

Most, but not all, are spotted. Last year Jonathan Norman, 31, was sentenced to life in prison for climbing into the Spielbergs' grounds with handcuffs, duct tape and, apparently, a morbid sexual obsession for the director. Details of the Spielberg family's daily routines were found in his flat.

The year before Robert Hoskins, an unemployed loner, received a ten-year sentence for lingering in the driveway to a fortress-like mansion Madonna owned atop the Hollywood Hills.



North Kingston

- Period terrace house
- Two bedrooms
- Private rear garden
- Recently redecorated

£120,000

The real cost of this home is £207,058 with a conventional mortgage.

With a Virgin One account it's £174,214.

With a normal 25 year mortgage, by the time you've paid the interest you'll find you've paid well over the odds for your home.

The Virgin One account saves you interest and allows you to pay off your mortgage years earlier, saving you a small fortune.

www.virgin-direct.co.uk/jone

08456 000 001

one account

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

To sort out the rest of your finances, call Virgin Direct on 0845 93 93 93 for ISAs, pensions & life cover.

The Virgin One account is a secured personal bank account with The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. Call us for an Essential Guide. Life insurance is required. You must be aged 18 or over. The One account must be repaid by the time you retire. The rate of interest depends on the amount borrowed compared to the value of your home. For example, if you borrowed £50,000 secured against a home worth £120,000, you would pay 6.45%. This rate is variable and correct at 12.4.99. In this example, over 25 years a customer remortgaging a freehold home in England would pay 6.7% APR. This APR includes land registration fees and our solicitor's and valuer's fees which you will have to pay. In this example these fees would amount to £432. You would also have to pay your own solicitor's fees. In calculating the APR we have assumed you will pay your solicitor £100. We have excluded these costs from the 'real' cost figures quoted above. A traditional 25 year repayment mortgage of £50,000, assuming monthly repayments and that you pay an interest rate of 6.45%, requires total interest payments of £27,058. Using this mortgage to purchase a home worth £120,000 means that the total cost would be £207,058. Assuming that you have an income of £35,000 a year, spent evenly throughout the month, and that you make the same monthly repayments as per the previous example, paying your income into the One account would reduce your borrowing and save you interest at 6.45%. This alone means that a £50,000 loan would be repaid 8 months early at a total interest cost of £31,977 - a saving of £5,081. If an annual payment of 5% was added, where an extra 1% of total earnings was left in the One account each year, the loan would be repaid 9 years 8 months early at a total interest cost of £24,214 - a saving of £8,844. Using a One account in this way to purchase a home worth £120,000 means that the total cost would be £174,214. Calls are recorded and randomly monitored. The Virgin One account is not currently available in Northern Ireland. Virgin Direct Personal Finance Ltd, Discovery House, Whiting Road, Norwich, NR4 6ED. Representative only of Virgin Direct Personal Finance Ltd which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for life insurance, pensions and unit trust business and represents only the Virgin Direct Marketing group. Virgin Direct only markets its own products.

Taken to task? Only if the questioners have asked for it

Prolonged periods spent in the company of military persons takes its toll on plain English. After a weekend in Washington at Nato's 50th birthday party, Tony Blair's command of his own language has been... well, diminished and degraded.

First casualty of Nato's linguistic attrition seems to be the word "ask". As he reported the summit attendance (to a thin House) yesterday, it became clear he had forgotten this helpful little expression,

so widely understood by ordinary people. Our PM no longer asks, he tasks.

The Prime Minister seemed to have been tasking a lot. His response to MPs' toughest inquiries was that he had "tasked" somebody else to come up with an answer. When William Hague wanted to know whether oil sanctions against Serbia would be enforced against Russian tankers, and whether Nato intended to board and inspect the vessels, Mr Blair said he had "tasked"

Nato planners to find the solution to this dilemma.

Alice Mahon (Lab, Halifax) was worried about Serbia's neighbour, neutral Montenegro. What if the Russians tried to ship oil to Montenegro? Mr Blair replied that Nato planners had been "tasked" to come up with the answer to that, too.

A vignette of the Blairs at breakfast swims into the mind's eye. "Was that the last of the Shredded Wheat, Cherie," asks Dad, shaking an empty carton. "No," says



Mum. "Twice I've tasked Evan to fetch the new box in. But there's just no tasking that boy. Task Kate, dear: she listens to you..." (Cherie starts opening the post) "Ooh look! The Sedgefield Labour Club have tasked you to unveil their new Pool Lounge." Easy to mock, of course. But the use of specialist lan-

guage to describe commonplace activities serves a purpose, dignifying the obvious and imparting a sense of mysterious expertise to what might otherwise sound a silly answer.

Consider in more detail those two questions, to either or both of which a whole string of backbenchers want-

ed answers. William Hague, Tam Dalyell (Lab, Linlithgow), Donald Anderson (the Labour Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee), Alice Mahon, Roseanna Cunningham (SNP, Perth) and Dennis Davies (Lab, Llanelli) wanted to know how you could cut off Serbia's oil supplies without strangling Montenegro, and what was the point of apprehending friendly oil tankers unless you apprehend the Russian ones too.

Simple conundrums, these:

rather like asking how you would drive to Cornwall without passing through Devon. Imagine asking the Transport Minister the first, and the Home Secretary the second, and being told: "I've asked a committee of experts to find the answer." Ladicrous. But the Prime Minister has tasked the experts. So that's all right, then. Mr Blair did betray frustration at having to give these non-answers. Towards the end of the session he began telling those who questioned

him about apprehending Russian tankers, that he had, of course, tasked Nato to consider this question — but adding (to Tam Dalyell) that in his view Nato would appear to "lack seriousness" if we did not take "measures" against all shipments.

It struck me this was susceptible to the headline "Stop Russian tankers," Blair tells Nato, but, tasked to keep an eye on the Chamber, reporters' attention wanders.

Kosovo, pages 13-15

Forgotten rural poor are losing out, says Prince

BRITAIN's rural poor risk being neglected, as business and ministers pour money into inner-city regeneration, the Prince of Wales will say today.

Business leaders and politicians should do more to help farmers and other country dwellers to diversify economically and develop stronger community ties, the Prince believes.

He is anxious to encourage schemes that would enable people in rural areas to reclaim unused land for projects that would benefit the local area — from playgrounds to co-operatively-run shops.

A source close to the Prince said yesterday: "What companies and the Government should do is look at the experience of regeneration projects that have been successful in the inner cities and see if there are lessons that can be transferred to rural areas."

"Some of the issues that need to be tackled are: how can farming communities diversify? What more can be done to make better use of open spaces?"

The Prince's comments take him into a highly charged political arena. Last year's countryside march, in which some 150,000 people marched on London, betrayed a widespread unease about perceived marginalisation of the countryside. After failing to persuade

Government and business urged to tackle poverty beyond the inner cities, reports Alexandra Frean

the previous Conservative administration of the importance of community enterprise schemes, the Prince is said to be relieved that the Labour Government is embracing his ideas through its own community-based regeneration programmes.

He is pleased at the "green spaces initiative" launched last month by the New Opportunities Fund, which will make £125 million of lottery money available to community projects to develop parks and playing fields in both rural and urban areas.

The Prince's speech will be delivered at the twelfth annual Community Enterprise Awards ceremony, run by his charity, Business in the Community, and sponsored by The Times and NatWest.

He will highlight the achievements of Business in the Community, which used last year's awards ceremony to

launch an ambitious Regeneration Action programme in 40 of the nation's most deprived communities.

Businesses that have taken part in the scheme have contributed more than £5 million in cash and kind to community-led projects in the scheme.

The awards ceremony at St James's Palace in London will be attended by Marmie Jackson, chairman and owner of the Harlem Globetrotters basketball team. Mr Jackson, a former Globetrotter player, is a leading figure in the community enterprise movement in the United States.

□ The Prince yesterday likened inner-city industrial buildings to palaces and cathedrals and spoke of his despair as many were torn down. "One remarkable industrial building after another has been systematically demolished... mercilessly swept away in a fashionable frenzy," he told the "Making Heritage Industrial Buildings Work" conference.

The Prince was speaking at the former Great Western Railway works in Swindon which is being converted into a heritage centre. He said there were many vacant industrial buildings of comparable merit. "The challenge is to ensure where appropriate they are conserved and brought back into contemporary use."



The often-reproduced photograph of the D-Day landings. Roy Walker, below, is the soldier in the left foreground

Camera-shy warrior comes clean

THE identity of a British Tommy caught in one of the most famous photographs of the D-Day landings has finally been uncovered (Paul Wilkinson writes).

For almost 45 years Roy Walker kept quiet despite seeing himself in countless newspapers, magazines and textbooks on the invasion on June 6, 1944. He even resisted an Imperial War Museum appeal for soldiers in the shot taken on Sword beach to come forward.

But now Mr Walker has

disclosed that he is the battle-weary young soldier at the water's edge. He was discovered by Barrie Barnes, a teacher from Hull, who is writing a book about his old unit, the 50th Northumbrian Regiment. Mr Walker, now 79, and living in Scarborough, said: "Barrie is the only one I've told apart from a few close friends. I've seen the picture published all over the place, but I'm not one for getting my name on the front page, so I just kept it to myself." He said he had been taking a wound-

ed comrade in his Bren-gun carrier to a beach first aid post. "I chased along the beach in my carrier and was stopped by the beachmaster, who bawled at me: 'What the bloody hell are you doing? You're attracting enemy fire...' I told him what had happened and had to walk my mate down to the water's edge, where a first aid post was being set up."

"As I was walking back to the gun carrier somebody took my photo, which appeared in all the daily papers later."



Alan Clark condemns 'incompetent' leader

WILLIAM Hague faced the first signs of open revolt at the jettisoning of his party's Thatcherite past yesterday with a direct assault on his leadership.

Alan Clark, former minister and MP for Kensington and Chelsea, said the confusion about the party's direction was "deplorable". He added: "I think the whole row looks bad and just shows how incompetently we are being led."

Although regarded as a maverick, Mr Clark's remarks echo the private misgivings of a number of Tory MPs at the handling and substance of Mr Hague's new approach to public services.

There was also further confusion last night at the latest policy ideas floated by Peter Lilley, the Tory deputy leader. At the weekend he raised the prospect of privatising the Post Office and turning over proceeds from the National Lottery to the National Health Service, a proposal the Tories have vigorously attacked Labour for.

Sources close to John Redwood, the shadow industry

secretary, said yesterday that it was "wrong" to suggest the party might go for a wholesale sell-off of the Post Office. MPs close to the health team, led by Ann Widdecombe, expressed astonishment that the Tories should adopt an idea they had so roundly criticised.

Tory chiefs stressed that Mr Lilley was only turning over ideas, and that neither had been adopted as party policy. Mr Hague conceded yesterday that there had been some "lively discussion" in the Shadow Cabinet about switching the emphasis away from private sector solutions for the health and education ser-

vices. He insisted, though, that the party was united and that he would not be deterred from presenting to voters a more consumer-friendly image of the Tories.

The leadership is encouraged that its polls show Labour's lead over health had been cut by nearly a quarter in the past six months, with the Tories also making up ground on education.

Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, kept up the modernising momentum by pledging last night to match the Government's £40 billion extra for health and education over the next three years.

Tory officials insisted that Mr Maude's speech to the Regents Park and Kensington North Conservative Association did not mean the party no longer believed in cutting government spending. They indicated the party's next election manifesto would include a commitment to cutting taxes. The search for large-scale savings to meet the party's traditional commitment to a smaller State will concentrate on the £100 billion social security budget.

Millennial jeers for Dobson

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

NHS workers boomed and cheered Frank Dobson yesterday when he refused to consider allowing them a £500 bonus for working over the millennium holiday period.

The Health Secretary was supposed to be guest of honour at the annual conference in Brighton of Unison, the public service union. Instead the 800 delegates, who represent ancillary workers given a 2.8 per cent pay rise this year, heard his 40-minute speech in silence. After perfunctory applause they then launched into a series of attacking questions on pay, NHS reforms and millennium working arrangements. "Will you be working over

the millennium and how much will you be getting paid?" Yunis Bakhus, a nurse from Newcastle, asked to cheers and applause.

To a rising chorus of jeers the Health Secretary began a long, rambling answer about how the NHS needed to be able to deliver a full service over the holiday period.

"I think I have got an official invitation to go to the Dome," he said eventually. "Whether that is work or pleasure I don't really know."

The Health Department has told health authorities to ensure that they provide proper transport and catering over the holiday, but to make no special payments.

NEWS IN BRIEF

New effort to cut red tape

The Prime Minister has ordered a war on red tape after complaints that industry is struggling to cope with new regulations and laws. Government departments are to face checks to ensure that new laws do not stifle or overburden business or the professions with bureaucratic demands.

Dr Jack Cunningham, Minister for the Cabinet Office, has been given the new enforcement role inside Whitehall to tackle ministries with unnecessary regulations and paperwork. He is to outline his approach tonight in a speech to the Social Market Foundation.

Dyslexic pupils rap Blunkett

David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, who has said he is concerned about the plight of dyslexic children, has apologised to 11 Nuny Kirk Hall special school pupils in Netherthorpe, Northumberland, after sending them a 51-page policy report in response to a simple question. His department's two-page, closely typed "sorry" note also upset the teenagers and their teacher. It was too difficult to read.

Court criticises TV film-maker

A documentary maker filming the "seriously delinquent" lifestyles of five young people in Nottingham went far beyond merely observing them, the High Court ruled. Sir Stephen Brown asked for undertakings from October Films and Channel 4 not to use the footage in four of the cases and not to identify the fifth youth. Nottingham City Council brought the action to protect the children, who were in its care.

Bicycle thief was caught on the run

A marathon runner was arrested as he crossed the finishing line of a race after a fellow athlete recognised him as a bicycle thief. The man was led away for questioning in his running shorts and vest just minutes after he completed the 26-mile South Coast Marathon in Gosport, Hampshire, and later admitted theft. After being taken to the police station the runner asked to go to the exercise yard.

Cancer helpline is launched

A helpline was launched yesterday at the start of a new campaign against Britain's second biggest cancer killer. The 24-hour Symptoms Hotline will alert people to the signs of bowel cancer, which claims nearly 20,000 lives each year. Set up by the Crocus Trust charity, the line was developed by former BBC *Watchdog* presenter and cancer sufferer Lynn Faulds Wood. The Hotline is on 0870 2424870.

Tax free, instant access savings.

Up to

6.50%

gross p.a.

6.40%

AER

Abbey National Savings ISA & cash component of Investments ISA.

Tier	Gross Rate p.a.	AER
£3,000 plus	6.50%	6.40%
£1,000 to £2,999	6.25%	6.15%
£1 to £999	6.00%	5.90%

Rates are correct at 06-04-1999. Rates may vary. Minimum opening balance is £10.

Take your savings into the new millennium with the Abbey National Savings ISA. It offers a great return, including a 0.50% gross p.a. bonus available until January 1st 2000. What's more, all underlying rates are guaranteed to at least equal the Bank of England base rate until July 1st 2000. To find out more, simply pop into any branch or call us free on the number below. (Lines are open Monday to Friday 8am to 9pm and Saturday 8am to 4pm.)

0800 174 635

ISAs in Plain English

ABBEY NATIONAL

Because life's complicated enough.

543

ABBEY NATIONAL PLC, WHICH IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY, ONLY SELLS ITS OWN LIFE ASSURANCE, PENSION AND COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT SCHEME PRODUCTS. AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and illustrates what the interest rate would be if interest was paid and added each year. Since the introductory bonus of 0.50% gross p.a. is offered for less than a calendar year, the AER will be less than the gross rate p.a. The value of tax benefits depends on your own personal financial circumstances and may be affected by future changes in legislation. ISA products are provided by Abbey National PEP and ISA Managers Limited, which is regulated by IMRO. To help us to improve our service, we may record or monitor phone calls. Abbey National, the Umbrella Circle symbol and Because life's complicated enough are trademarks of Abbey National plc. Registered Office: Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL, United Kingdom. Telephone: 0870 607 6000.

Significant discounts on Home Insurance for the over 50s

For a no obligation quotation call FREEPHONE 0800 41 31 80

Please quote reference: IE Lines open 8am - 8pm Mon to Fri, 9am - 4pm Sat

Insurance services

Dedicated Insurance for the Over 50s

Insurance is arranged by Sedgwick Alliance Group Services Limited, a registered insurance broker and underwritten by Corston Insurance Limited. Your call may be monitored or recorded. Help the Aged (Registered Charity No 127286) will handle from every insurance policy purchased.

CORSA CDX.

Lawyers on trial to mind their language

Frances Gibb sees judges lead courts into new world of English

LAWYERS entered their brave new world of plain English and no Latin tags yesterday — with only mixed success.

Within hours of the start of new reforms, part of the biggest shake-up in civil justice this century, some had already fallen foul of the rules.

Michael Tillet, QC, opening his case, told Mr Justice Turner: "My Lord, I appear for the plaintiff in this action."

"No you don't," came the judge's swift rebuke. "You appear for the claimant."

The use of plain English is the linguistic element of a package of wide-ranging changes recommended by Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, to cut down on the costs and delays in civil litigation.

But "Wolf Day" at the High Court in London was marked mainly by the occasional exchange of views over new terminology aimed at getting rid of centuries-old Latin and legal jargon.

As Mr Justice Turner was correcting Mr Tillet in the Queen's Bench Division, one of his colleagues in the Chancery courts became the first (deliberately) to put his foot in it. Mr Justice Neuberger welcomed assembled lawyers to the "Interim Applications" court (formerly known as Chancery Motions) and politely warned them to stick to the Civil Procedure Rules (formerly the Rules of the Supreme Court) under which judges had wide powers to make orders on their own initiative in the interests of good case management. The language had

changed as well as the procedure, he said, but nobody should feel embarrassed if they occasionally lapsed into the old way of saying things.

He then promptly asked: "Are there any *ex parte* motions?" Instead of the new modern jargon, "applications without notice".

No one objected and the judge went on to hear a list of "interim applications with notice" (formerly *inter partes* motions) for court orders following the issue of claim forms (formerly known as *writs*) by the claimants (who used to be the plaintiffs).

A new procedure to speed up medical negligence cases was launched yesterday with the aim of keeping lawyers out of hospitals and doctors out of courts (Ian Murray writes).

Medical negligence cases currently cost the NHS more than £300 million a year, expected to more than double over the next five years if changes are not brought in. These cases also took five years to settle on average, twice as long as the normal civil case.

The new procedure relies for the first time on both sides giving each other all the facts of the case before it goes to court.

Patients who have a complaint will be able to ask for their full medical records and the hospital will have to provide them within 40 days. An out of court settlement will be easier, especially if the hospital is prepared to admit a mistake and apologise.

Legal, page 39



Stuart Hall running an *It's a Knockout* competition in Hertfordshire for a corporate client. Television is full of weak imitations, he says

TV aims a Knockout at hi-tech games

By CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT



Eddie Waring ...

It's a Knockout, the game show from a lost age of giant penguins and Styrofoam frogs, is to return to television after 17 years.

Channel 5 executives believe that the show, which relied on slapstick humour and the ritual humiliation of its contestants, is the perfect antidote to the sophistication of electronic computer games.

Stuart Hall, whose uncontrollable laughter added to the show's appeal, will return to provide the commentary for the £1.5 million production in the summer. Many of

the original costumes, which included Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee and Maid Marian outfits, will be retrieved from a warehouse in Manchester.

In its heyday on BBC1, *It's a Knockout* attracted regular audiences of 18 million. It was first broadcast in 1963 and was taken off in 1982.

Eddie Waring, Hall's co-presenter, died in 1986. Hall, who owns the copyright, has run a successful business staging the format at corporate events for multinational firms all over the world. He

said yesterday: "It's high time it came back to television. Every time I turn on the television I see a weak imitation."

The show plays on people's natural aggression. If you put a Great Britain sticker on someone's back, they want to go out and beat hell out of the Germans."

Prince Edward and the Duchess of York appeared in a royal version in 1985. There are plans to revive the international version, *Jeux Sans Frontier*, which was rumoured to achieve worldwide audiences of 200 million.



... co-compere with Hall

'Prepare to crash' alarm on jet was a prank

By JOANNA BALE

A PASSENGER was probably responsible for triggering a false crash-alarm message that caused panic on a British Airways jumbo jet, the airline said yesterday.

Cabin crew on the Boeing 747 flight from San Francisco to Heathrow had to calm the 391 passengers after a pre-recorded message said that the aircraft was about to crash into the sea.

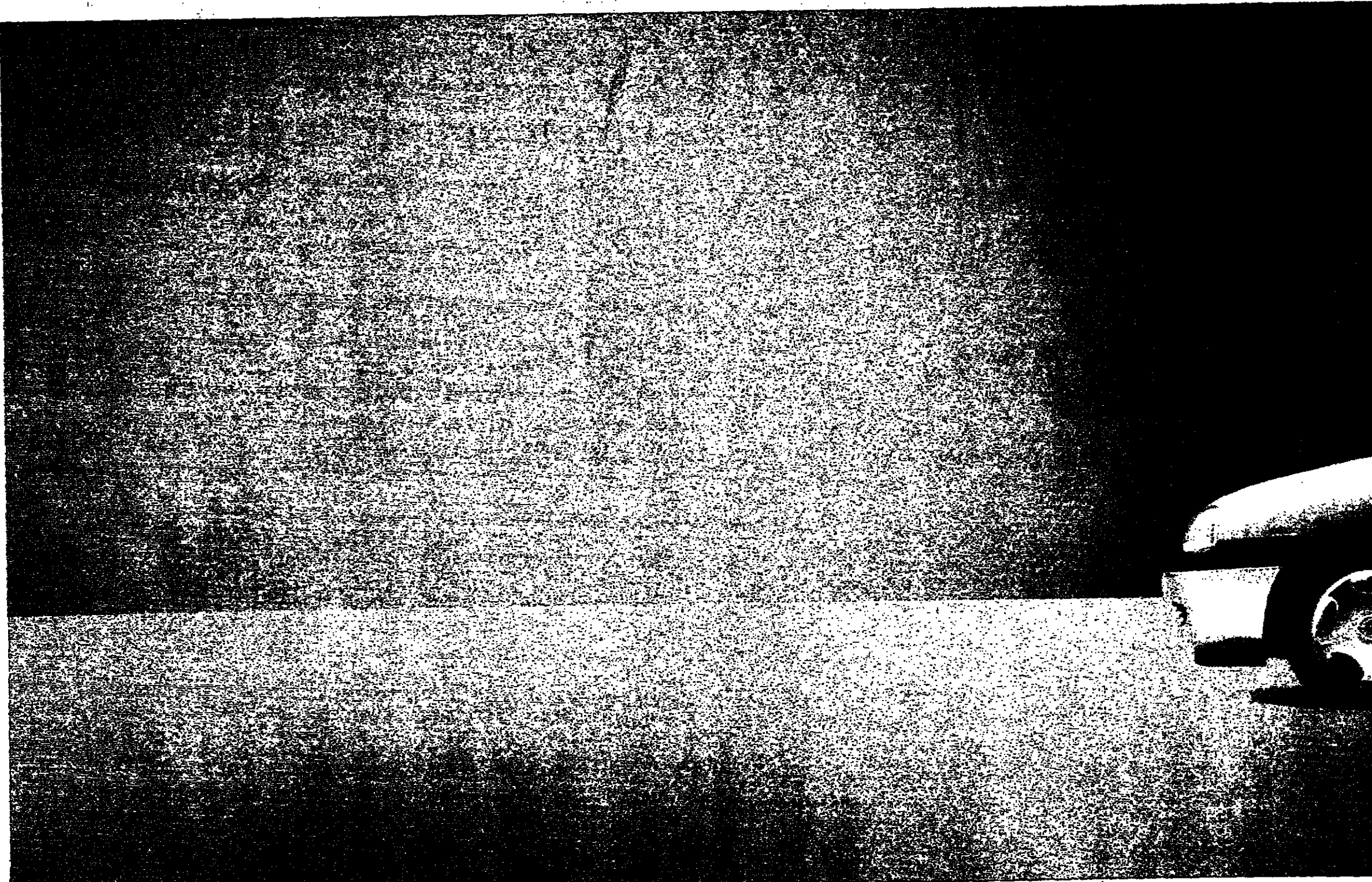
After the incident, cabin crew reported seeing one passenger acting suspiciously. A BA spokesman said: "We believe it was a mischievous prank and we believe a passenger was responsible. We have ruled out a mechanical fault or an accident by staff. We are treating this as seriously as we would a bomb-hoax call made against the airline. Our investigation is continuing."

Alarm messages are kept in the cabin service director's area inside one of the galleys on BA Boeing 747s. The airline spokesman added: "The message is loaded and ready to go. It's just a matter of lifting a lid and pushing the button."

The message told passengers to get into the brace position and to put on lifejackets because a forced landing was imminent. Several passengers became so distressed that the crew had to call for the assistance of a doctor on board.

Lloyd Popple, from Reading, a passenger, said: "To be told you're about to die is not a pleasant experience." Many passengers were in a state of shock, he said.

Raymond Larmond, 42, of Luton, was jailed for 28 days after admitting illegal broadcasts on his Flava FM radio station. The case followed complaints by pilots flying into Heathrow that they had picked up reggae and dance music on their radios. Larmond, single and unemployed, operated Flava FM from a flat in Luton for over a year.



£10,725 (inc A.B.S.)

PRICE ALSO INCLUDES:

CENTRAL LOCKING

AIRBAG

AIR CONDITIONING

POWER STEERING

0% 1 YEAR 0% FINANCE

ALARM

CORSA CDX.



VAUXHALL
Raising the Standard

Prices quoted as new or going to new. Postage and metallic paint optional at extra cost. Finance example: Corsa CDX, 1.6i 16V £10,725 (which includes Vauxhall's on-the-road package of £525, 12 months road fund licence of £155 and DVLA registration fee of £25) 40% deposit (£4,290), 12 monthly payments £536.35. Total amount payable £10,725. APR 9%. Offer applies to Corsa CDX and CDX models ordered between 26th February and 30th April 1999. Available in private, individual, business, fleet, and rental. Vauxhall Finance (including Vauxhall Finance EPC) and one-year warranty. All other sales subject to credit, availability and conditions. Customers must be aged over 18. Where applicable, Vauxhall Finance is a subsidiary of Vauxhall Finance Ltd, 19 Chapel Street, Luton, A. A guarantee may be required. The details of your nearest dealer or to order a brochure call Vauxhall Finance on 0800 400 000.

Crowded marketplace.

Competition from all sides.

Information overload.

Greater pressure on margins.

Technology limitations.

Too many short-term fixes.

Too few long-term answers.

Now's the time.

Come in from the cold.

Z
ZURICH
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Allied Dunbar • Eagle Star
Scudder Investments
Threadneedle • Zurich

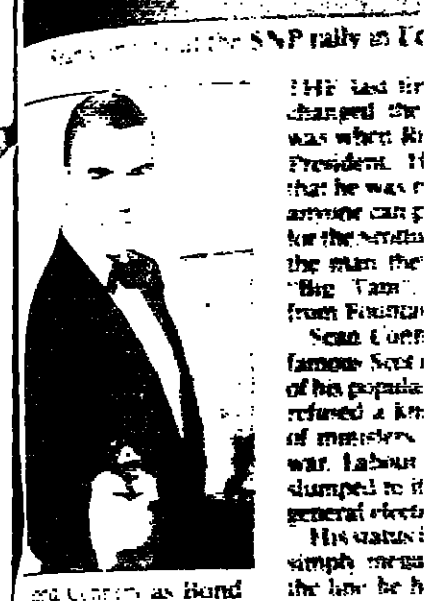
www.zurich.com

LSE (London Stock Exchange): ADZ Allied Zurich
SWX (Swiss Exchange): ZUAN Zurich Allied

In the UK, Zurich Life, Eagle Star Life and Allied Dunbar
• Threadneedle form three separate marketing groups,
which can only advise on and sell their own products.

Composing innovative solutions for insurance, financial protection and asset management. Global strength. Local commitment. *Your aspirations. Our passion.*

He may
but can



and Gordon as Bond
Connery head

Connery has
and explained
He also an
which the 57
party's new
change will
his life seen
change by the
he said "I a
and I am at

RAC cover
from j

£39

Membership costs you less than
24 hours a day, 365 days a year
Average call out time of 15 minutes
Our highly trained paramedics
You can tailor your cover to suit
The RAC was ranked Number 1
Satisfaction Survey
It's easy to join call now or pay
Direct Debit instalments

For instant c
0800 0



www.rac.co.uk
RAC
RAC
RAC

He may be the world's most famous Scotsman, but can Big Tam sway his country's voters?



Sean Connery at the SNP rally in Edinburgh yesterday. An archetypal Scot, he is adored all the more by his fans for being grumpy, litigious, tight-fisted and having a strong streak of male chauvinism



Legend: Connery as Bond

THE last time an ageing film star changed the course of an election was when Ronald Reagan stood for President. He had the advantage that he was running for office. But if anyone can pull off the same trick — for the Scottish National Party — it is the man they know in Scotland as "Big Tam", the former milkman from Fountainbridge in Edinburgh.

Sean Connery is simply the most famous Scot in the world. A measure of his popularity is that, when he was refused a knighthood on the advice of ministers, including Donald Dewar, Labour's standing in the polls slumped to its lowest point since the general election.

His status is now more than that of simply megastar. Somewhere along the line he has become an icon. No

Magnus Linklater says if anyone can help the SNP it's Connery

matter that he has lived abroad, in Marbella or Monte Carlo, for more than 20 years; he is still regarded as Scotland's favourite son. The fact that he is frequently grumpy, taciturn, legendarily tight with his money, litigious and, at best, cavalier in his attitude to women, seems only to have enhanced his standing.

When, in 1993, he was granted the freedom of the City of Edinburgh, the Usher Hall was packed to the rafters with ordinary folk who had come to welcome him back. He said a few gruff words, did a soft-shoe shuffle on the stage — and brought the house down. "Good on you, Tam!" shouted a cracked Edinburgh

voice from the crowd, and the place erupted. How he has achieved all this is something of a mystery. Being a Hollywood megastar is not an automatic passport to affection. Other Scots who have achieved fame and fortune abroad have fallen out badly with their fellow countrymen for getting too big for their boots. There is a famous Scots expression, "I kent yer faither", which carries the implicit warning: however grand you become, I know who you are and where you came from.

Billy Connolly broke the rules by poking fun at his native Glasgow. The pop singer Sheena Easton is unlikely to be welcomed back after say-

ing her Scottish background meant nothing to her. The jury is even out on the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, who is judged to be rather more fond of Downing Street than Dunfermline.

Despite Connery's long exile, his enormous wealth, and the fact that he sometimes seems to treat Scotland as an extended golf course, he has avoided all such criticism. He is seen to be genuinely attached to his roots, he clearly enjoys coming back, and he is still recognisable as an archetypal Scot. A streak of male chauvinism, a laconic style, a tendency to hang on to his money, and a readiness to use his fists to settle a dispute if necessary, have all added to, rather

than diminished, his appeal. Those, for better or for worse, are red-blooded Scottish characteristics.

Whether all that is enough to persuade voters back to the SNP is another thing. They may well warm to Connery, but they are still more likely to decide the election on prosaic matters such as tax and the economy rather than the terse admonitions of their hero. His entry on to the campaign scene has come a little late, his words yesterday too clipped to tip the balance. And though the crowd, as ever, enjoyed the sight of Big Tam back on native soil, it is likely to vote with its head rather than its heart.

As one of those interviewed yesterday put it: "I'll definitely be going to his next movie. But I think I'll make up my own mind how I vote."

Connery heads SNP rescue mission

Continued from page 1
endum campaign, when he stood alongside Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, and Mr Salmond urging Scots to embrace devolution. "There was a spirit of positive enthusiasm," he said.

But, taking a swipe at the stage-managed style of new Labour, he added: "The control

freaks have blown that away and replaced it with fear and intimidation."

He also attacked the media, which the SNP blames for the party's poor showing in the opinion polls. "I have never in my life seen such shameful abuse by the Scottish media," he said. "I am ashamed of it and I am angry. I know the

game was to provoke me. Well, it has succeeded."

Connery reminded Scots that they have waited almost 300 years for their parliament. "It is my hope that it will evolve with dignity and integrity and it will reflect the new voice of Scotland. If I was asked, who will win this election, I would answer, hopefully

ly Scotland. The only thing to do is vote and vote again and I will be right with you."

Afterwards, as Connery stood with Mr Salmond on the conference centre steps, waving to passers-by, one audience member mused over his final words. "How can he be right here with us?" she asked. "He lives in the Bahamas."

SNP activists spoke warmly of the performance. "He said what needed to be said. It's too early to write off the SNP," said one. "We're lucky to have someone like Sean to remind people of that."

But the speech did not impress political opponents. A Labour insider was dismissive. "He had nothing new to add to the political debate. The SNP is in trouble, with or without Sean Connery."

Braveheart sets out to capture the nerd vote

BAGPIPE playing will be compulsory, computer nerds will have a public holiday and the New Deal will be replaced by Ye Olde Deal in which jobless youngsters renovate castles.

This is Scotland post-devolution as envisaged by William Wallace (his real name) who is standing as an independent "Braveheart" candidate in Edinburgh Central and Lothians.

Mr Wallace, 37, a telephone engineer, is backed by Eldos Interactive, a computer games publisher, which will be launching a new game called *Braveheart* in June.

Incorporating imagery and dialogue from the film starring Mel Gibson, players take on the role of a famous Scot or clan chieftain and attempt to invade and conquer England. But players may cross the border only after they have defeated Scottish rivals and been crowned King of Scotland.

Mr Wallace's manifesto pledges also include abolishing taxes on computer games and appointing a minister for computer games.

Photograph, page 26

CAMPAIGN FOR SCOTLAND

Labour pledges better childcare

Labour outlined measures to boost Scottish nursery and childcare services yesterday. The initiative includes a "first steps" programme to provide education and health services for under-threes under one roof. It also guarantees nursery places for all three-year-olds by the end of the first parliament, and an expansion of after-school and homework clubs.

Blair 'lied over tuition fees'

Tony Blair was accused of lying over tuition fees by the Scottish Tories as the party unveiled a new campaign poster in Edinburgh. The Prime Minister appeared next to the word "Blair" with a quotation from 1997 in which he stated he had no plans to introduce tuition fees. David McLetchie, Scottish Tory leader, said the Tories would abolish them.

Pointers to a proud past

The Scottish parliament should promote Scots words, says Sir Iain Noble, an independent candidate standing for the Highlands and Islands regional list. He suggests road signs as one opportunity, with the Forth Bridge becoming the Forth Brig ("heavier and shorter"), roundabouts "roundels" and birchwoods "birks".

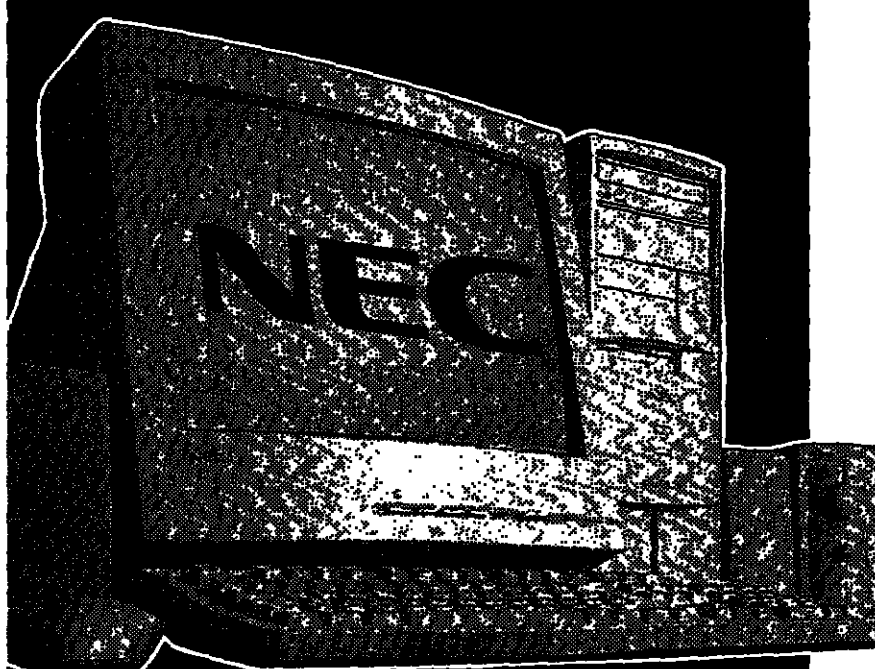
QUOTE of the day

6 Alex Salmond is looking increasingly like a maiden in distress waiting to be rescued by James Bond. I don't think it's going to happen?

Lord Steel of Aikwood on the SNP and Sean Connery

today's AGENDA
David McLetchie, Scottish Tory leader, has campaign trail early as Peterhead ferryway. Alex Salmond, SNP leader, in Dunfermline. Jim Wallace, Liberal Democrat leader, launches Highlands and Islands charter in Inverness. Donald Dewar, Scottish Secretary, is at Westminster for Scottish Questions.

A MONSTER OF AN OFFER



"Already top of the polls with the PC magazines the NEC SM-500B3 just got even better with a larger, faster hard drive and a free DVD movie. Monster movie, monster machine, monster value."



NEC Direction SM-500B3

- Intel® Pentium® III Processor 500MHz
- 128MB SDRAM
- 512KB Internal Cache
- 20GB 7200rpm High Speed Hard Drive
- 6X DVD-ROM Drive + Godzilla movie
- ATI Rage Fury AGP Graphics Accelerator with 32MB SDRAM Video Memory
- 19" NEC Colour Monitor (0.26 dot pitch, 18.0" viewable)
- SoundBlaster Live Value Sound Card
- Labtec LS2632 Speakers, Subwoofer, Headphones & Mic
- 3COM PCI v90 56Kbps Modem
- Logitech Roller Mouse, Keyboard
- Microsoft® Windows 98, McAfee VirusScan, Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Microsoft® Word 97 MS Works 4.5, Corel Draw 7 + Clipart Library (33,000 images), IBM ViaVoice, Money 98, Encarta 98 & Route Europe
- 12 MONTHS NEXT BUSINESS DAY ON-SITE WARRANTY

£1499 EX VAT

£1795.40 INCLUDING DELIVERY & VAT

NEC DIRECT

Already voted "Best Buy" May 1999 by PC Advisor magazine. Now with free upgrade to 7200rpm 20Gb drive and Godzilla, the movie, on DVD.

This is what PC Advisor said about the NEC Direction SM-500B3

- High quality 19" NEC monitor. "Incredible 32MB ATI Rage Fury Graphics Card."
- Tried-and-tested pairing of a Creative SoundBlaster Card and Labtec Speakers.
- "An excellent business machine."
- "In all, then, the NEC is an extremely capable power PC which has been thoughtfully

designed and contains a good mix of quality components. For this price you'd be hard pushed to match its performance."

- All our PCs are Year 2000 compliant.
- Special Offer - extend your standard one year next business day on-site warranty to 3 YEARS NEXT BUSINESS DAY ON-SITE WARRANTY FOR ONLY £49 (£57.58 inc VAT).

Ring NEC Direct on 0870 0106322

NEC is a registered trademark of NEC Corporation. NEC Direct, the NEC Direct logo and Direction are trademarks of NEC Corporation. "Best Buy" and "Pentium III" are registered trademarks. "Intel Inside" and "Labtec" are trademarks of Intel Corporation. All other trademarks acknowledged. Prices are charged at £19.99 including VAT per PC. Prices listed are correct at time of going to press. All prices and specifications are subject to change without notice or obligation. The photograph product may not always match the specifications in this document. All values are subject to NEC Corporation's standard terms and conditions of sale, which are available on request. NEC Corporation, 1 Seaport Quay, London E14 3HP. Registered in England No. 305796. Registered Office: Seaport Quay, London E14 3HP. Registered Office: Seaport Quay, London E14 3HP.

RAC cover from just

£39

- Membership covers you as the driver or passenger in any car, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- Average call out time of just 37 minutes
- Our highly trained patrols fix 60% of breakdowns
- You can tailor your cover to suit your individual requirements
- The RAC was ranked Number 1 in the 1998 J.D. Power Customer Satisfaction Survey
- It's easy to join: call now & pay by credit, debit or charge card, or by Direct Debit instalments

For instant cover Quoting DST248
0800 029 029



Please drive open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm. Free C10 MMS voucher offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, is not transferable and is only available to new Members. Cover costs from £39 if paying by a continuous payment method and is subject to Terms of Membership which are available on request. Information correct at time of going to press. Based on responses from 4,448 owners and drivers of 14-year vehicles who requested roadside assistance.

Be calm but vigilant, Straw tells minorities

By STEWART TENDLER AND MICHAEL EVANS

JACK STRAW, the Home Secretary, urged ethnic communities yesterday not to panic after the nail bomb attacks in Brixton and Brick Lane but told them to remain vigilant.

As Mr Straw described to the Commons the police efforts being made to catch the bomber, Scotland Yard detectives sent two emergency messages to every force in the country. They gave details of the attacks and warned any force with an ethnic community to consider ways of increasing their protection.

Mr Straw told MPs: "Any attacks on these communities is an attack on British people and the whole of British society. We will not tolerate racism of any kind, still less this abhorrent crime."

M15 officers who have joined the hunt for the bomber were working on theories that the attacker or attackers could be breakaway members of the neo-Nazi group Combat 18.

Telephone calls claiming responsibility on behalf of the



London's Asian communities remain on their guard

group had been made after both bombings. However, security service officers believe the bombers might be using the name of the group although they are not striking on its behalf. They do not think the attacks are part of a national conspiracy.

M15 and police believe there are probably no more than 30 active hard-core members of Combat 18 but not all their identities are known. There are other supporters linked to the group and a fringe of people who claim to be members of the organisation.

Yesterday, a number of Asian peers confirmed they had received threatening letters from another group called White Wolves, which also

claimed responsibility for the Brixton bombing.

Several peers complained that they had reported the letters but they were not taken seriously. When Mr Straw was questioned about the letters in the Commons he said he was not aware of them.

Detectives from the Yard's anti-terrorist branch are also studying closed circuit television footage from sites around Brick Lane to try and identify the bomber arriving and leaving the area.

The bomb was in a black Reebok bag left in the roadway in Hanbury Street, off Brick Lane. The bag was placed by a parked camper van outside a restaurant that was closed. Hanbury Street is

not covered by cameras and police are looking at film from Brick Lane and a number of other main roads.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Alan Fry, head of the anti-terrorist branch, said there were hours of film to check and the task was painstaking and slow.

During the day, rewards for catching and convicting the bomber rose to a total of £60,000.

Bangladeshi community leaders in the area yesterday accused police of failing to protect them on Saturday before the bomb exploded.

Shofique Chowdhury, general secretary of the Bangladesh Welfare Association, said that police were "negligent" because a police station in Brick Lane was closed, resulting in a slower response to the bombing.

But Superintendent Rose Fitzpatrick said that there had been patrols on the streets and that another, larger station provided cover. She said there had been extra officers in the area and police arrived within minutes of the blast.



Challenging stereotypes: Fred Broughton of the Police Federation. Some black officers are unhappy with his posters

Black police upset by 'race bias' posters

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A POSTER campaign using shock tactics to tackle racism in the police service began yesterday in spite of objections from black officers.

Produced for the Police Federation, which represents junior officers in England and Wales, the posters are similar to some used in a campaign last year by the Commission for Racial Equality. They were drawn up as part of the response to the Macpherson report on the police investigation into Stephen Lawrence's murder and are meant to challenge preconceptions. Some

black officers recommended that the federation should abandon the campaign, but the commission backed the theme.

Designs drawn up by the federation include one poster showing a black man and a car and asking: "What do you call a black man in a BMW?" The poster explains he is a traffic squad sergeant on patrol. Another shows a black man and the slogan "Been mugged?" Underneath, it says: "Tell him, he's a police officer."

The federation has spent £30,000 on the posters and 25,000 posters were sent out yesterday. Chief constables have already indicated their support for the campaign and the federation hopes the posters may also be put up in career offices and colleges.

Yesterday Fred Broughton, chairman of the federation, said the posters were designed to undermine stereotypes. He said: "We knew it would be controversial."

But Inspector Paul Wilson, head of the Black Police Association in the Metropolitan Police section, said the association had been consulted and he was surprised the federation had gone ahead.

"We feel uncomfortable about this campaign," he thought the federation's efforts might be seen as a cheap gimmick. The federation in the past had never seen racism as an issue to address, he said.

FORCE RACIST, CHIEF ADMITS

The Chief Constable of Merseyside admitted yesterday that his force was institutionally racist and promised to root out racist members (Russell Jenkins writes). Norman Bettison, 42, also announced the setting up of a task force with 15 officers to re-examine 300 cases from the past year to see if any was tainted by discrimination. It is investigating racism, the community and race relations task force will listen to "whistle-blowers" willing to inform on colleagues.

Family praise PC killed by van

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

THE family of a police officer who died when a van sped through a speed check, dragging him for a hundred yards, spoke yesterday of his devotion to duty.

PC Jeffrey Tooley, 26, was struck by the van, being driven at more than 50mph, before being dragged to his death at Shoreham, West Sussex, at the weekend. The officer, from Emsworth, near Havant, Hampshire, was carrying out a laser-gun speed check. He was wearing fluorescent clothing and carrying a torch.

His brother Russ, 23, a leisure centre manager, broke down in tears and had to leave a press conference after saying: "His happiest days were with the police fighting for justice, so give him some justice now and find them please."

PC Tooley's family had attended the press conference at police headquarters in Lewes



PC Tooley was dragged to his death by the van

to speak of his love for the job and to appeal for the driver to come forward. Police have begun a murder hunt for the driver, who is believed to have set fire to the van soon after the incident. Detective Superintendent Alan Ladley said tests were being done on a van found north of Brighton.

Quality health insurance

At Prime Health, we have health insurance plans to suit every need. And as part of the Standard Life Group, we aim to deliver the best value too. How much could you be saving?

Call

0800 7799 55

to find out more

from
50p
a day

Prime Health

Ref: M17003NG A member of the Standard Life Group

The result of your vote on the future of Bradford & Bingley.

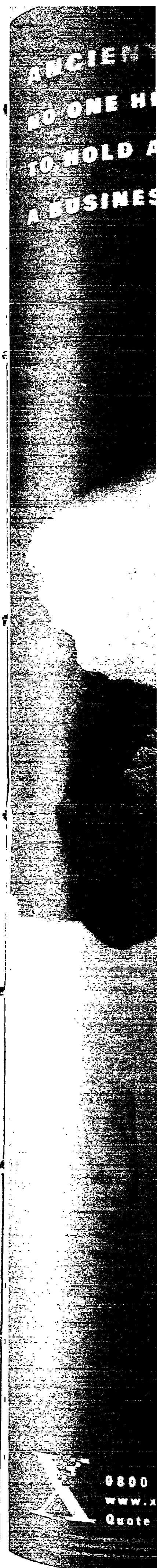
At our AGM yesterday, a significant majority of our members voted for us to take steps to convert Bradford & Bingley to a Plc.

We believe in listening to our customers. We are now taking steps to convert and we are committed to doing it well.

This will be a long and complex process, taking more than twelve months to complete, and requiring the formal approval of our members and regulators.

Conversion may raise questions that our staff are unable to answer at the moment. Please be patient. We will keep you informed on a regular basis.

Bradford & Bingley



WEDNESDAY APRIL 27 1994

OP
ALL RO

ack police
et by 'race
' posters

family praise PC
killed by van

quality health insurance

50¢
a day

السلامة

NO ONE CAN BE...
TO HOLD ALL THE...
A BUSINESS MAN...

MAKE IT SIMPLER TO FIND.
CAPTURE AND SHARE THE
KNOWLEDGE IN YOUR COMPANY.
NOW ALL YOUR HEADS CAN
WORK TOGETHER.

WHAT THE CONVERSATION GOING.
SHARE THE KNOWLEDGE.

THE DOCUMENT COMPANY

1800 700 700
www.docx.com
Circle Ref. 2100

Labour anticipates defeat in local polls

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour Party is preparing for a record low turnout and the loss of up to 1,500 seats in next month's local elections because of public dissatisfaction with corruption in town halls and indifference towards council politics.

Hilary Armstrong, the Local Government Minister, admitted yesterday that Labour would suffer more than any other party because it is defending its best local election results. It won 47 per cent of the vote in 1995, the last time the same 13,000 seats in England, Scotland and Wales were contested; that represented a 3 per cent increase over the 1997 general election.

Ms Armstrong said she did not expect the turnout to improve on last year's local polls, when only 26 per cent of the electorate bothered to vote. In some wards the turnout was as low as 10 per cent.

"Low turnout is my main anxiety. Very few people are aware that there are local elections in England. There is far more interest in the elections

VOTES WILL DECIDE 13,000 SEATS

More than 13,000 seats in 362 councils in England, Scotland and Wales are being contested in the local elections on May 6. The elections cover 35 English unitary authorities, 36 English metropolitan authorities, 257 English non-metropolitan districts, 32 Scottish councils and 22 Welsh councils. No London councils have elections on May 6. The last time the same seats were contested was in 1995.

for the Scottish Parliament and the Welsh Assembly," she said.

In anticipation of a poor turnout, Labour is already planning to bolster its campaign for wide-ranging reform of local government. Proposals on the table include a new code of ethics and management structures for councils. The party also wants to introduce personalities by creating directly-elected city mayors.

She also suggested that electoral losses for Labour would enable new candidates to enter town-hall politics. "One of the problems is that we now have councillors who tend to be much older, often retired and not working, and mainly men. That is not good democracy."

Tony Travers, local govern-

ment expert at the London School of Economics, shares that view. "The Blair Government believes in local government, but they want a different kind of local government from the one we have now. They would prefer one with lots of different people in it. As far as they are concerned, a low turnout would justify all their proposed changes."

The Conservatives, who will benefit to a limited extent from a low turnout, are trying to play the sleaze card in their campaign. Richard Ottaway, the party's town-hall spokesman, listed more than 50 instances of "sleaze, incompetence, financial irresponsibility" and "downright criminal activity". But some of his examples illustrate the difficulties of

trying to tarnish all Labour councils with the misdemeanours of the few. His sleaze dossier includes Thurrock, where the Labour council had "unfairly targeted smokers" by requiring them to work an extra 2½ hours a week to make up for their cigarette breaks, and Wycombe, where the joint Liberal-Labour administration had located two park and ride sites close to residential areas.

The sleaze factor notwithstanding, the Tories are set to win 1,100 to 1,400 seats on May 6. In 1995, the Tories attained just 25 per cent of the vote, losing 2,000 seats and 61 councils.

Most experts agree that it is inconceivable that they will not at least benefit from "a dead cat bounce" upwards. The Tories' best chances for victory are not, however, in Labour boroughs but in places such as Bromsgrove and Ashford, which the party lost in 1995, but where a Tory MP was elected in 1997.

The Liberal Democrats stand to benefit most from sleaze in Labour town halls. In Doncaster, they are regarded by many as the only credible alternative to Labour.



Martin Winter on the stump: as a new candidate he has nothing to do with the "Donnygate" scandal, he tells voters

Doncaster's new breed disowns past

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WHEN Martin Winter, a Labour candidate for next month's local elections, goes doorstepping in Doncaster, he gives voters a new familiar mantra.

"You don't know me from Adam," he says. "But I am as honest as the day is long. I am a new candidate. I am nothing to do with 'Donnygate'. And I think it is time this council had a clean sweep."

For Mr Winter, a 37-year-old former Rugby League professional and father of three, knows there is only one real issue for voters in this South Yorkshire town — trust.

How can anyone trust a town hall which has been so riven with corruption — and how can anyone trust a local Labour Party that has always controlled it?

"Donnygate" is already two years old but the end is not in sight. Some 31 people have been arrested. Councillors, former councillors, and even some council officers have faced allegations concerning expenses fraud, planning irregularities and overseas junkets.

Four people have been jailed and one fined. Two more are due in court shortly. These cases relate only to false accounting charges. What South Yorkshire Police call the "more serious allegations" relating to planning issues are yet to come. The police inquiry has already cost well over £200,000.

The local Labour Party is in turmoil: the council is on its third leader in as many years and the district party is still suspended. Two years ago Labour had 57 of the 63 council seats. Now it has just 43, losses caused as much by party suspensions as by electoral defeats.

The Liberal Democrats sniff blood and hope to double their six seats in May. The Tories hope to add to their three

seats. Close observers predict that Labour will lose half a dozen seats but retain control — for now.

For Labour candidates like Martin Winter, there is no choice but to face the mess head on. So he distributes disarmingly frank election literature: "As a newly selected candidate, Martin Winter has no connection with any of the past events concerning Doncaster council." Other new candidates insist that new Labour will provide a "new council, a better council".

The approach is being encouraged by Caroline Flint and Rosie Winterton, two new-



Doncaster town hall: a Labour stronghold

ly-elected local Labour MPs, who are desperately trying to move the local party on. But with more trials and court appearances in the offing, activists are becoming frustrated at their inability to put "Donnygate" behind them. To the good, they say the scandals have made them work harder.

Some 21 seats are up for grabs on May 6 and all but one are held by Labour. But about half Labour's incumbents are standing down to be replaced by first-timers. Local party chiefs insist the retirements are caused by age and ill-health. Party members suspect a precautionary clear-out.

OTHER COUNCILS HIT BY SLEAZE CLAIMS

DONCASTER is the biggest but not the only Labour town hall that has been dogged by allegations of wrongdoing and bitter party infighting (Alexandra Frean writes).

While some allegations of corruption or impropriety have resulted in police investigations, in others the Labour Party has conducted its own inquiries and has suspended a number of councillors or, in some cases, the entire local party.

Labour's readiness to tackle these allegations head on is a mark of Tony Blair's determination not to let town halls become the weak point of his administration.

In 1995, the local Labour party in Walsall was suspended over allegations that some councillors took a free holiday at local taxpayers' expense. No criminal charges were ever instituted.

In Barnsley, two local Labour branches were suspended after allegations of nepotism in the selection of candidates for council seats.

In John Prescott's home territory of Hull, Labour's National Executive was brought in to monitor the selection of candidates for this year's local

elections after a bout of ward in-fighting and allegations, which were not proved, of misuse of power.

Other Labour councils that have become mired in allegations of sleaze or party in-fighting include Blaenau Gwent, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire and Glasgow, Wakefield, Slough, Hackney, Rotherham, Barnsley and Shropshire.

Some Tory councillors have also faced allegations, particularly in Hackney.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE
MAKE ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE
A PLACE OF HOPE AND COMFORT
FOR ALL WHO NEED IT
St. Joseph's Hospice is a charity which provides care and support for the terminally ill and their families. We are currently raising funds to help us continue our work. If you would like to help, please contact us on 0115 951 1111 or visit our website at www.stjosephshospice.co.uk

• Comprehensive 12 month Rover warranty*	• Vehicle history and mileage "Gold Check"
• 12 months' Rover Assistance**	• 30 day peace of mind exchange scheme*
• National Vehicle Stock Locator System	• Tailored funding options**

At Rover we believe that whether you buy one of our cars brand new or a little further down the road, the experience should be equally straightforward and reassuring.

That's why our Rover Approved Used Car programme has been designed to provide you with maximum peace of mind — from making it easy to find exactly the car you want to helping you choose an affordable finance option.

So, whatever you do for kicks... trust Rover to take the risk out of buying a used car. To find out more, call the lo-call number below. Or visit your local Rover Dealer.

0345 186 186
www.rover.co.uk/approved



**ROVER
APPROVED**

*Warranty subject to availability. **12 month Rover warranty subject to terms and conditions available from your Rover Approved Dealer. **12 month Rover Assistance includes breakdown fee, roadside assistance, home assistance and local recovery for UK only. European cover is available for an additional charge. On request from your local Rover Dealer. Finance is provided by Rover Financial Services (121 Limited, Box 99, International House, Wetherill Lane, Birmingham, B37 7YU).

Party
force
of unic

Stars unite

Flaming
offers c

Sain

Party politics force pair out of union posts

TWO students have been disqualified from senior positions in the Oxford Union after being found guilty of electoral malpractice for holding a birthday party two days before polling.

A tribunal ruled that Jeff Bell and Lucy Aitkens had staged the party to solicit votes. They were asked to stand down as treasurer and librarian respectively only days after being elected on March 5.

Mr Bell, who had been unopposed, said yesterday that the ruling followed a complaint to the union by Miss Aitkens's defeated opponent, Hatty Cadman, who has since been elected in her place as librarian.

The tribunal was told that 400 invitations were sent out for the party, with almost half not addressed to an individual but simply posted in students' pigeon-holes.

After a hearing lasting several hours, the union ruled that not all the guests could have been personal friends and disqualified the pair for "organised treating which was likely to affect the result".

The tribunal, on March 10, found that the party was intended primarily to increase the exposure of both candidates and to influence voting.

The students had also paid £50 for a disc jockey, breaking rules prohibiting money being spent to win support.

Mr Bell, a law student at Lady Margaret Hall, said that

Students broke electoral rules by holding a birthday disco, writes Helen Johnstone

he and Miss Aitkens, studying human sciences at St Hilda's College, were close friends and decided to organise a private party to celebrate their twentieth birthdays on the same day, February 28.

He said that the first available date for a party at a suitable venue in Oxford was three days later, on March 3. "We provided documentation to the tribunal to confirm that."

Mr Bell now believed they were the victims of an old school tie system. "I love the university and the Oxford Union is a great institution, but as I'm from the North East and Lucy is from Australia, maybe we did not fit in."

"I think it is a travesty. If the date of our birthday party had been two weeks later, we would have held the party for the same reasons and there would have been no problem. It is a technicality which has brought us down."

He said that more than 100 people were at the event partly because he and Miss Aitkens

knew a lot of people and partly to ensure that they were not left out of pocket.

Miss Aitkens had also been before the tribunal accused of organised treating on March 2, when the American talk show host Jerry Springer was a guest at the union. She was alleged to have "handed out sweets to members of the audience in a random fashion and in a manner which drew attention to herself".

However, the tribunal found that, although her behaviour was flamboyant and possibly attention-seeking, it was not in breach of the rules.

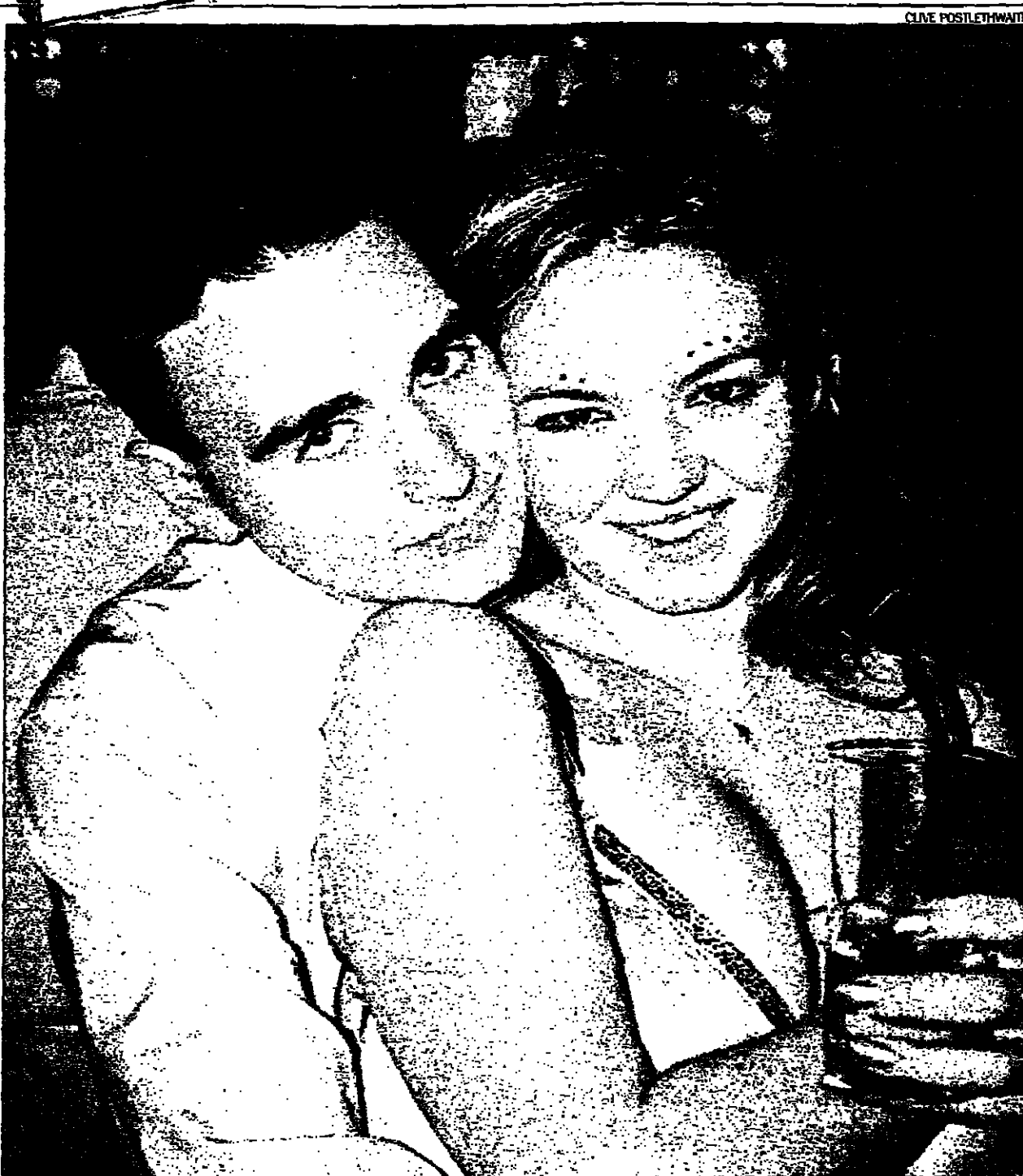
Nicky Black, President of the Oxford Union, said yesterday that the two had been disqualified because it was found that they had held the birthday party with the intention of soliciting votes.

"They can stand again for other positions, but they will not be able to stand again for these particular posts," she said.

Miss Cadman, who also assumes the title of vice-president, said: "I felt I had lost unfairly and now the tribunal has ruled I lost unfairly."

"Several people have since accused us of doing something below the belt and there is a bit of bad feeling and I feel a bit uncomfortable at times. Obviously this isn't the way that I would have liked to become librarian, but I think it is perfectly acceptable for me to assume the position."

هكذا من الاجل



Jeff Bell and Lucy Aitkens at the joint 20th birthday party that cost them their Oxford Union positions

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three in court over shootings

Three men were remanded in custody by Rochdale magistrates after shooting incidents last Friday. Tunde Yakub Adetoro and Andrew Dennis are charged with attempting to murder four policemen, conspiracy to commit armed robbery, possessing an AK47 rifle, taking two cars and driving them dangerously. Mr Adetoro is charged with one further attempted murder. Francis Dixon is charged with conspiracy to commit armed robbery, assaulting a police officer and possessing firearms.

Driver jailed

A driver was jailed for four years by the Old Bailey for attacking another motorist with a baseball bat. Michael Bons, 36, of Middlesbrough, chased a family for five miles after an incident in the Blackwall Tunnel, East London.

Player charged

The Everton striker Michael Branch, 20, has been charged with being drunk and disorderly. He was arrested in Liverpool early on Sunday and has been bailed to appear before city magistrates on June 1.

Pets left to die

More than 140 animals died of hunger and thirst at Crewe Animal Rescue centre. Ann Skott, owner of the Cheshire sanctuary, admitted 24 charges of causing unnecessary suffering. Sentencing will be after reports.

£450,000 Chips

A record for a watercolour by Sir Alfred Munnings was set at Sotheby's in New York. Violet Munnings's *Horse Chips at Chantilly* was sold for £459,160. The previous Munnings watercolour record was £65,000.

Ostrich flap

An escaped ostrich was trapped when police in Hampshire deployed a spotter plane and used a net fired from a gun by a specialist officer. They were concerned that its antics could have caused a road accident.

Stars unite to fight world debt

By Adam Sherwin

FOURTEEN years after Live Aid, the world's leading musicians are uniting once more for a global concert to help the Third World.

Harvey Goldsmith, the Live Aid promoter, is gathering the cream of the entertainment world for simultaneous concerts in London, New York and Geneva on October 9. The event will be called Net Aid and the organisers hope that one billion people will send a message to politicians through the Internet, urging them to remove the debt hanging over the poorest countries. Michael Jackson,

Sir Paul McCartney and U2 are expected to participate in the concerts, to be held at Wembley Stadium, Giants Stadium in New York and a venue in Geneva.

The concerts will be the last big gathering of music stars this century. It is hoped that they will include Bob Dylan, REM and Luciano Pavarotti, as well as celebrities from film and sport. They will be broadcast live around the world to what is intended to be the largest global television audience for a single event.

Bob Geldof, who put together Live Aid, which raised £123 million in 1985, is understood to be helping the project, but does not wish to take a frontline role.

Geri Halliwell, former Spice Girl and a UN goodwill ambassador, may become a spokeswoman for the campaign.

Mr Goldsmith, who will announce the project at the United Nations in New York today, said: "The end of the millennium is the right time for a huge event to highlight the question of how extreme poverty can be eradicated."

Net Aid is being run in conjunction with the UN Development Programme, which provides funds to help countries combat hunger and environmental damage and foster job creation.

Leading article, page 21

Claret route to health

RED wine helps to prevent heart disease and Cabernet Sauvignon does it best of all, says a French doctor. Jean-Paul Broustet suggests half a bottle a day also wards off dementia such as Alzheimer's disease (see Murray writes).

M Broustet, of the Hôpital Cardiologique near Pessac, in the Bordeaux vineyards, writes in the journal *Heart* that cabernet sauvignon, the main claret grape, contains the best antidote to cholesterol. This is because the vines protect

themselves against an autumn fungus by producing large quantities of an anti-oxidant called resveratrol.

Resveratrol produces a high-density cholesterol which prevents the body producing dangerous low-density cholesterol. This probably explains why the French, with a high intake of fats and cholesterol, have the lowest rate of chronic heart disease in Europe.

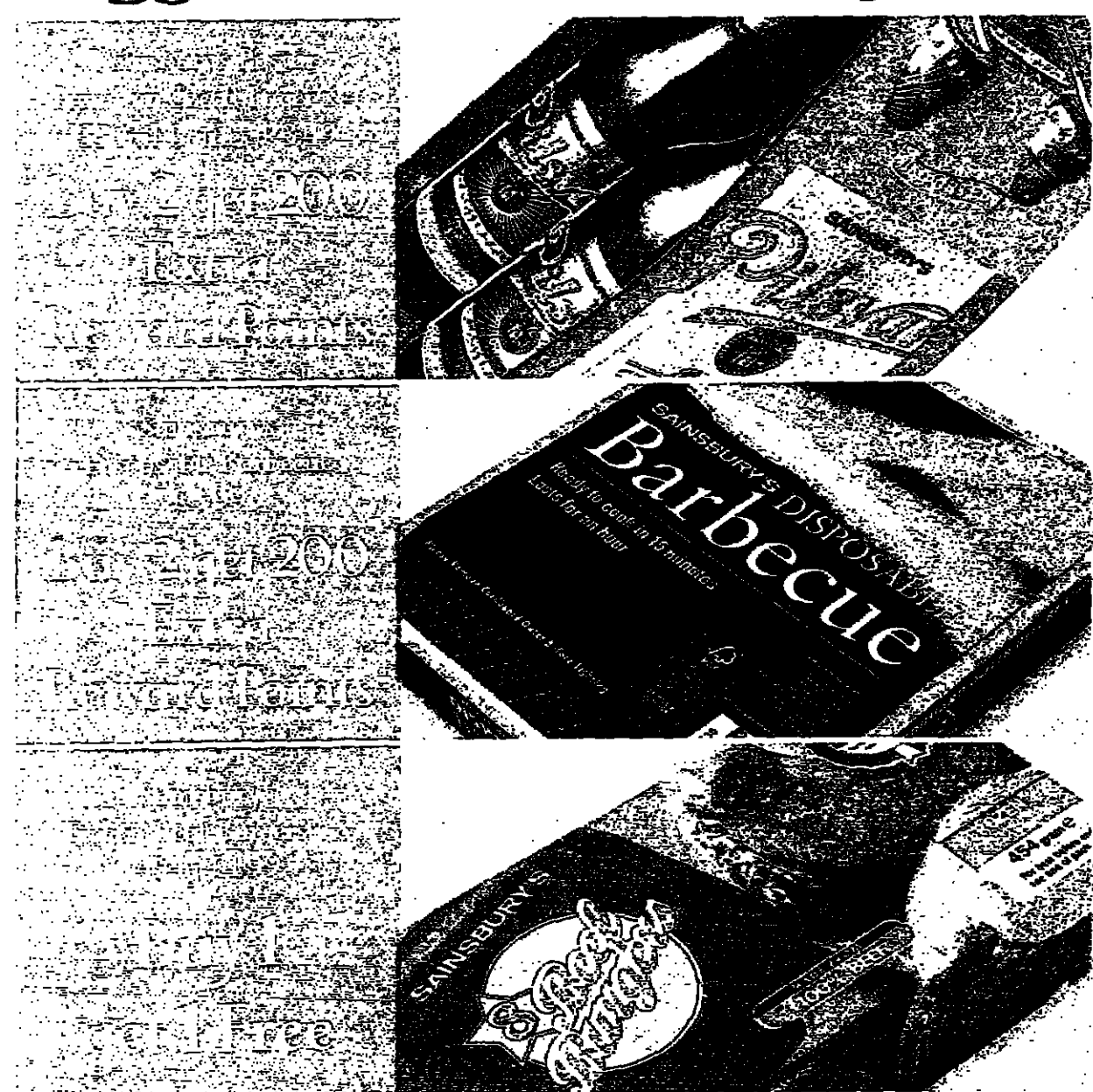
Dr Broustet points out that the death rate from coronaries in Toulouse among men aged

35 to 64 is only 78 per 100,000. This compares with 348 per 100,000 in Belfast and 380 in Glasgow. The average drinker in each city consumes about the same amount of alcohol but in Toulouse it is almost exclusively red wine.

Residents at old people's homes in the Gironde and Dordogne who drank two or three glasses of red wine a day were a fifth as likely to develop Alzheimer's as non-drinkers.

Leading article, page 21

Flaming good barbecue offers at Sainsbury's.



Sainsbury's



OFFERS END 8TH MAY 1999. ALSO AVAILABLE AT SAINSBURY'S SAVACENTRES. SOME LINES AVAILABLE AT LARGER STORES ONLY. PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. THE LAW DOES NOT PERMIT THE SALE OF ALCOHOL TO PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18. OFFERS EXCLUDE SAINSBURY'S 'LOCAL' AND 'CENTRAL' STORES. WE'D BE INTERESTED IN YOUR COMMENTS: WWW.SAINSBURY.CO.UK

At C&G low mortgage rates just got lower.

C&G DISCOUNT MORTGAGE

4.85% 5.0%

Whether you're moving home or switching mortgages a C&G Discount Mortgage takes low mortgage rates lower still.

If you're borrowing 90% or less of the property's value you can pocket the benefit of a healthy 2% discount off our standard variable rate for the first 2 years.

Or you can choose to spread the benefit of lower payments over a 4-year period with a 1% discount.

In return all we ask is that you keep the mortgage for 5 years or pay an early redemption charge if you don't.

What's more:

- If you're moving your existing mortgage from your current lender, we'll take care of the legal work, free of charge.
- There's no mortgage indemnity premium
- And no valuation fee
- Our award-winning mortgage service means you could have a decision with just one phone call.

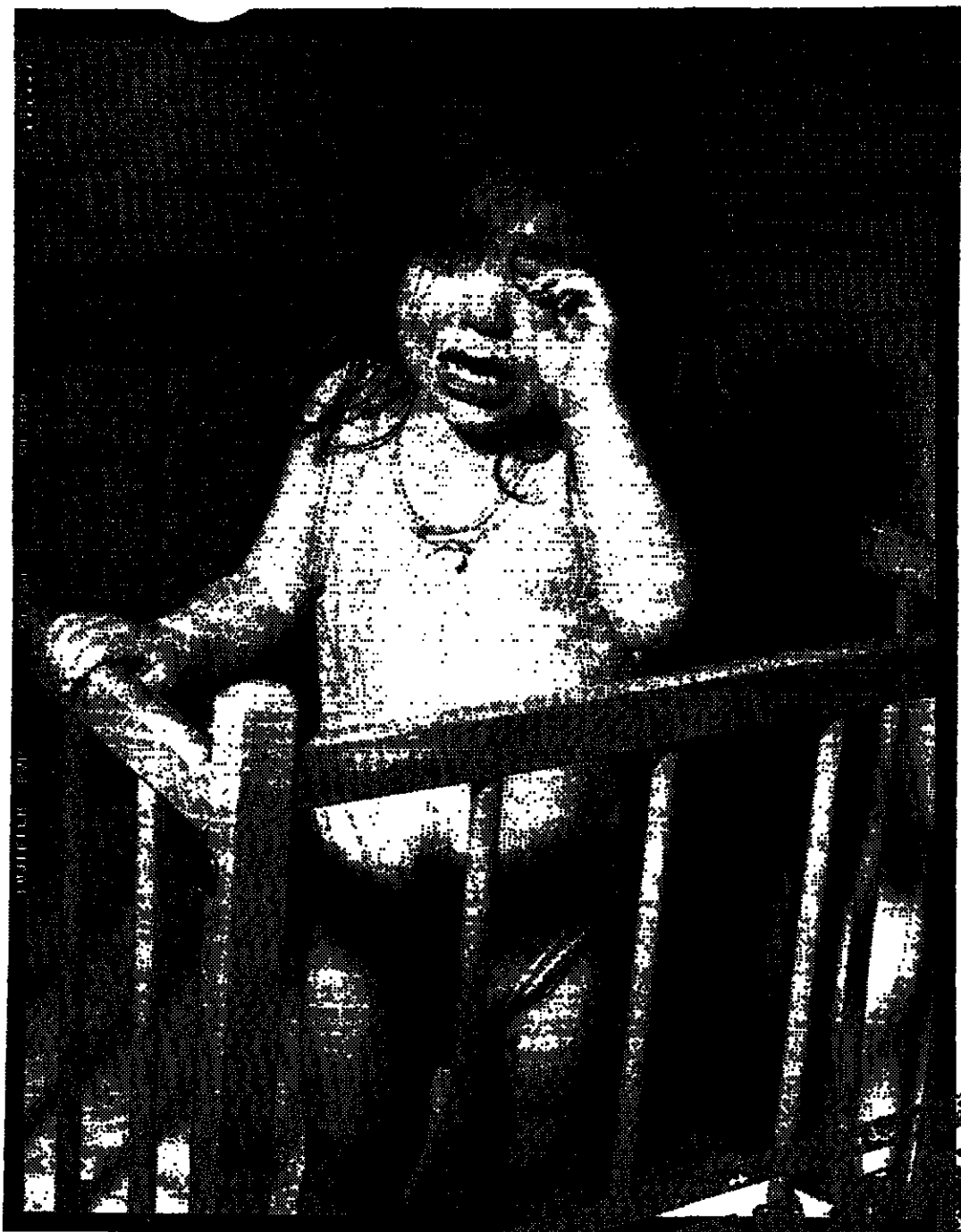
0800 731 8511

Cheltenham & Gloucester

Looking after your mortgage

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT

Cheltenham & Gloucester plc (Barnet Way Gloucester GL4 1BL). The C&G Discount Mortgage is based on our standard variable rate which may rise. Typical example: A borrower at interest rate of 4.85% for the full term of the mortgage as reflected in the total amount payable and APR, an interest rate of 5.00% secured over 25 years and a property value of £100,000. The net monthly payment assumes an interest rate of 4.85% on the first £50,000 of the mortgage. The discount mortgage charge of £199 is non-refundable and you must pay it at the time you apply for a mortgage. The second £50,000 must be repaid at the end of the mortgage term. Total amount payable £111,287.26 including our administration charge and closing redemption administration charge of £150. APR 5.00% (variable). At the end of the discount period the interest rate charged will be our standard variable mortgage rate which may rise. The repayment mortgage is based on our standard variable rate, currently 4.85%, would be £24.29. Early Redemption Charge: If you repay the loan in full or in part, or ask to switch to another C&G mortgage within the first five years, you will have to pay an early redemption charge equal to 3 months' gross interest. If you repay only part of the loan, the charge is worked out based on the amount you repay. A personal deposit of at least 10% is required. For smaller deposits of between 5% and 10% other discount periods are available. Where no discount mortgage is being repaid by you loans C&G will carry out, free of charge, the legal work usually required for a typical mortgage. The whole process should take no longer than eight weeks. The 'three legal' offer will come the legal costs involved in a typical mortgage transaction. It will not cover any non-standard costs, for example, the premium where a defective title or question prior is required. In addition, it will not cover the Land Registry fee if your property is currently unregistered. The offer is not available for complex mortgage cases, e.g. cases involving a transfer of equity or a joint mortgage. In these cases you must seek advice from a solicitor and we will make a contribution of £250 towards your legal costs. Different arrangements apply in Scotland, please ask for details. For the 'three legal' offer all mortgages must be created by 11 May 1999. 'What Mortgage?' 'Top Lenders' Awards 1998-1999. Best value-for-money standard variable rate mortgage, based on a loan of £25,000, 1999 award judged against all banks over the last five and ten years 1998 award judged against all banks over the last ten, five and two years. 1996 and 1997 awards judged against all national building societies and banks over five and ten years. Financial Advice Service Awards 1996, 1997 and 1998. C&G is the only lender to have scored the top three ratings every year since the awards began. The company's 1st tier or independent financial advisers included 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999. C&G mortgages are available through all branches of C&G and Lloyds Bank and also through TSB branches in England and Wales. You must be at least 18 years old to take out a loan. Please ask us if you would like a more detailed quotation. Before agreeing a loan we will want to satisfy ourselves about the suitability of your application. This will include assessing your ability to meet the repayments and, normally, calling the property. Any loan will require security in the form of a mortgage over the property. Interest rates may vary over the term of the loan. To help us maintain our service standards, we ask you to contact us by telephone calls. Cheltenham & Gloucester acts as an intermediary only to the Lloyds TSB Marketing Group which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for life assurance, pensions and unit trust business.



**JUSTICE
DENIED**

**Living in a damp
flat is making this
asthmatic child
critically ill.**

**And the
Government's
plans will
delay the help
she needs.**

Without a lawyer, this child's mother can't get her landlord to do anything about the terrible conditions in her flat.

But under the Access to Justice Bill, getting legal aid for housing disrepair claims will be a long and difficult process.

So what's the point of having rights, if basic access to justice is denied?

This Bill will hit the poorest and most vulnerable—the very people who need legal aid.

To protect their right to justice, ask your MP to lobby for changes to the Access to Justice Bill now. Before it's too late.



National
Housing
Federation

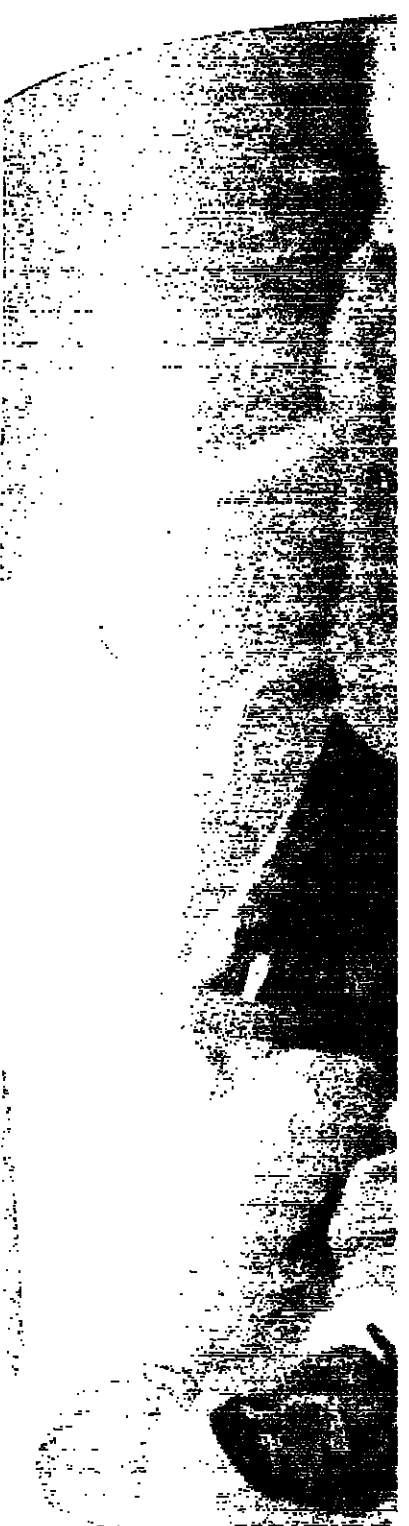
*The National Housing Federation shares
these concerns about the impact of the Bill.*



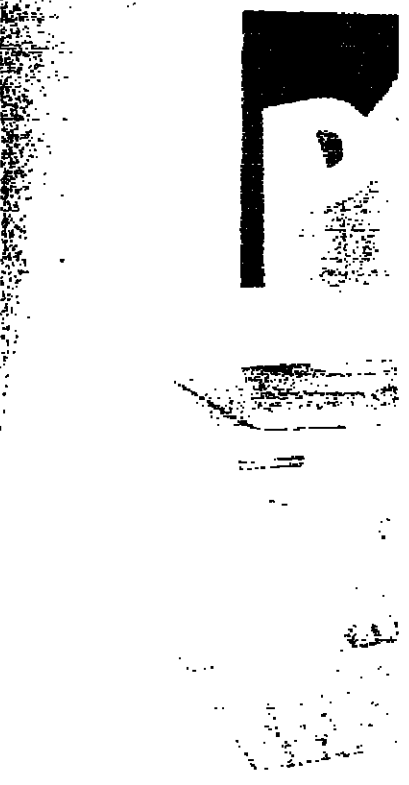
THE LAW SOCIETY

Justice for all.

Chance
family



THE PRICE. T
GIVE YOUR
BE UNFAIR



BUSINESS ADVANTAGE

مكتبة من الأصا

Chance call that reunited a family on way to Britain

AS SHE smiled and waved from the steps of the aircraft bringing her to Britain, a young Kosovan refugee was also celebrating finding her father by the sheerest chance.

Thirty-six hours before her arrival in Leeds, Gentiana Zogjani, her mother, Hanife, and her three brothers and sisters were in despair. Her father had been missing for weeks and they had reluctantly agreed to be put on a humanitarian relief flight to Britain without him.

Then Mrs Zogjani, 33, telephoned her husband Bajram's brother in Sweden to tell him *where she was going, only to find that her husband had just telephoned his brother himself, and was no more than a few hundred yards away from her in the Stenkovec border refugee camp in northern Macedonia.*

He quickly went to his family's tent, number BT72 in the nearby Brazde camp. This reunited the family, but left them in the terrible position of knowing that mother and children were booked on a flight to Britain but father was not.

They turned up at the Brazde gate at Sam on Sunday to plead his case with officials who drew up the list of 161 mainly women and children in a vulnerable position whom Britain had agreed to accept.

"I just want to get out of here, it is hell, we would go anywhere," Mrs Zogiani told *The Times*. Their hopes rose and fell as it became clear that of the 161 scheduled to fly out,

ON OTHER PAGES

Balance sheet..... 2

The next step..... 2

Lobby Purves..... 2


Leading article..... 2

Letters..... 2

13 had not shown up. However, other equally hopeful people clustered at the tent where names were checked.

The Zogjanis' position looked impossible. But then, barely two hours before the scheduled 10am departure from Skopje, officials exercised their discretion and allocated Mr Zogjani, 35, one of the spare seats.

The delighted family were whisked through the registration tent to doctors who gave



Jehona Aliu: discovered member of lost family

It was one good luck story among thousands of misery. A woman who turned up for the same flight with a man she described as her partner, but who was not the father of her children, was turned away.

Meanwhile, Jehona Aliu, the five-year-old Kosovan refugee who lost her mother when she went to the lavatory, has been reunited with a relative.

Ramzi Berisha, 30, a cousin of her mother, Sadije, was found in another tent at the giant Brazde camp in northern Macedonia where Jehona has been for nearly four weeks. But the child decided to stay with Farmire Cecelija and her husband, Xajvit, the couple who took her in after losing their own two sons.

In Britain, offers of help have been pouring in for the arriving refugees. Calls offering accommodation have come from as far away as Taunton and Oxford, and social services staff in Leeds where the Kosovans are staying have been swamped with

An appeal for clothing by the Salvation Army to retailers in Leeds brought a donation of 40 sets of pyjamas and night-dresses from Woolworths and more clothing and footwear have also been given by C&A and Marks and Spencer.

Mike Evans, assistant director of social services, said: "We have had everything from cuddly toys and donations of money to 'Can I adopt a baby?'"

The remains of the last bridge over the Danube in Serbia, at Novi Sad. Nato missiles blasted it early yesterday, robbing the Serbs of a route for military support and a vital link with Central Europe

Nato shuns the chance to turn back tankers

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN LUXEMBOURG

EUROPE tightened sanctions on President Milosevic and his circle yesterday, but the Nato alliance conceded that it could not use force to police a European Union oil embargo and turn back tankers that were taking fuel to Yugoslavia.

EU foreign ministers extended a range of sanctions with the aim of hitting Mr Milosevic and his immediate entourage of businessmen and politicians. European sports federations were urged to refuse further contact with Yugoslavia.

The ministers gave orders for the EU oil embargo on Serbia and Montenegro to enter force by Friday. However, differences among the EU governments over the legality of the embargo led Nato to opt yesterday for a gentle enforcement regime. General Klaus Naumann, chairman of the alliance's Military Committee, said Nato warships would stop tankers in the Adriatic visit them and search them, but they did not have the legal right to force them to turn round. This cautions an

round. This cautious approach reflected objections from France, Italy, Greece, Ireland and other states to the enforcement of a naval blockade against Montenegro, whose port at Bar is the

main route for petroleum products reaching Serbia

General Naumann said that the prospect of a Nato search would still have a deterrent effect. "I think we will see a certain impact ... third nations' ships will get very, very cautious - they will think twice whether they will take this route, because no one likes to be stopped at sea by a warship," he said.

Nato ambassadors were meeting in Brussels last night to draw up "search and visit" orders for Nato ships patrolling the region. Confrontation with Russia is still possible, however, since Russian vessels may be unwilling to submit to being stopped and searched by Nato warships. The absence of any international mandate to enforce a blockade means that Nato warships effectively will be powerless even to insist on boarding a tanker if the captain of the vessel refuses. In a sign of its differences with the EU majority, France did not even send a minister to yesterday's session.

Among other new sanctions are a freeze on EU-held financial assets of Mr Milosevic and individuals associated with him and their companies.

Briton outfoxes border guards

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

A BRITISH landlord drove nearly 4,000 miles in his family car, at one point speeding past armed border guards, to bring his mother-in-law from Yugoslavia to Britain.

Nigel Ashby, 42, picked up
Kovilika Bursac and her son,

Milan, 14, from the tiny village of Horgos, near the Hungarian border. Then he and his wife, Yasmina, 28, outwitted armed Serb border guards by speeding into Hungary.

He said yesterday: "When they recognised the British registration plates, they started shouting at my wife to get out."

I just slammed my foot down and raced across the border."

Mrs Ashby became worried for her family's safety after Nato bombers hit a chemical plant near Sabac, home of her

mother and brother. The family is now back at Mr Ashby's home above the Malt Shovel Inn, Coventry.

BE DIRECT™
DELL®
www.dell.co.uk

Affordable life assurance?

Choose the options
that suit you.

£53,200 of life* cover for just 20p* a day

It's natural to want what's best for your family.

But how would they cope financially if you were no longer around to provide for them?

The Family Protection Plan from Legal & General will help to protect them financially with the cash lump sum if you should die during the term of the policy.

You decide how much cover you want and how long you need it for. And you have a range of optional extras for even greater peace of mind. For full details, and an instant quotation, call us on 0500 33 66 66** today.

Low-cost term assurance - can give you over £53,200 of cover for a premium as little as 20p* a day.

Plus the option of:

- ✓ **Critical Illness Cover** - pays out if you are diagnosed with a serious illness as defined by the policy.
- ✓ **Terminal Illness Cover** - pays out if you are diagnosed with a terminal illness where your life expectancy is less than 12 months, except in the last 18 months of the plan.
- ✓ **Waiver of Premium** - pays your monthly premium if you can't work for more than 6 months due to ill health.
- ✓ **Indexation** - maintains the value of your nominal sum by increasing it, and your premiums, annually in line with inflation as indicated by the Retail Price Index. Subject to limits.

*Equivalent to £6.08 a month (based on a male non-smoker aged 30 years over 15 years). Minimum premium of £5.00 per month equates to 17p a day. Premiums accepted on a monthly basis only. Life Assurance is provided by Legal & General Assurance Society Limited. Full written details available on request. Now and then we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of companies that we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please tick the box on the coupon. **For your protection, calls are usually recorded and randomly monitored. Legal & General Direct Limited is a representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for the purposes of recommending, advising on and selling life assurance and investment products bearing Legal & General's name. Legal & General Direct Limited, registered in England No. 2702080. Registered office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP.

Up to
£300,000
FREE
Accidental Death Cover
Call now for more details

Call now for an instant quote
0500 33 66 66

0500 33 66 66 is a free phone number. It is available from 9am to 5pm, 7 days a week. For more information, visit our website at www.landg.com

© 1998 Legal & General

D45/DL04

Please send me a personal quotation and information pack on the Legal & General Family Protection Plan.
Post to: Legal & General, FREEPOST 15W/L 0467, Canlett CF11 1YW

Ref D45/DL04

Surname (Mr/Ms/Ms etc) _____

Forename(s) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel No Home _____

Tel No Work _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____

I am a ☐ smoker ☐

Non-smoker ☐

Cover required £ _____

Term required _____ Years

(minimum 1 year)

We may telephone you to make sure your information has arrived safely. Now and then we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of companies that we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information please tick here ☐

Visit our Website at www.LandG.com

Legal & General

BALKANS WAR: THE NEXT STEP



The Prime Minister, now back in Britain, was criticised for his warlike stance in America where he was said to upstage President Clinton

No 10 denies Clinton put brakes on hawkish Blair

By Philip Webster and Ben Macintyre in Washington

THE Prime Minister denied yesterday that President Clinton had appealed to him last week to stop talking about ground troops in reference to the conflict over Kosovo, despite claims to the contrary in *The Washington Post*.

Downing Street sought to nip in the bud reports that when the two men had a discussion before the Nato summit, Mr Clinton had told Tony Blair to tone down his belligerent rhetoric. Asked by ABC whether the suggestion in the *Post* was true, Mr Blair replied: "No, not at all."

Yesterday he told the Commons that the summit itself had indeed discussed ground troops. What the President and Mr Blair appear to have agreed was that all questions about the use of ground troops should be covered by referring to the assessment being conducted by Javier Solana, Nato's Secretary-General, of all the options.

In an apparent recognition that previously ruling out

ground troops had helped President Milosevic, the line was to be that Nato would not discuss its military tactics and strategy in public. It was a position around which all Nato members, including the doubters, could unite.

On his return from Washington yesterday, the Prime Minister seemed not to have retreated at all from his pre-Nato position that the use of land forces against a "degraded" Milosevic machine could be contemplated. He insisted that President Milosevic had no veto on Nato actions, referring several times to the continuing build-up of forces in the area.

George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, took the same line in London yesterday. He said the decision to look at all options was a "sensible contingency measure". There was no intention to mount a wholesale invasion of Kosovo but it was "sensible to re-examine our existing plans for a ground deploy-

ment in the light of changing circumstances".

Mr Blair's hawkish stance in the United States made him the most visible figure at the summit, and he struck a more warlike posture than any other Nato leader. His tour of the television stations and the Midwest recalled Margaret Thatcher's hard-line approach. *The New York Times* noted that Mr Blair's detractors at the summit were "wondering who crowned him 'King Tony'". The conservative Republican, Pat Buchanan, an opponent of US military intervention, derided Mr Blair as "the mouse that roared. It isn't going to be British troops humping up the road to Belgrade."

Others used Mr Blair's stance to bash the White House. Senator Jesse Helms, the veteran rightwinger, hailed him as "the most eloquent leader in the Western world".

The White House insisted that Mr Clinton was not being upstaged.

Yugoslav moderate makes TV bid for peace

By Tom Walker and Michael Binyon

VUK DRASKOVIC, Yugoslavia's Deputy Prime Minister, made a dramatic tilt at peace for Kosovo yesterday. In a series of interviews, he proposed that his Government should accept UN troops in the province — on the condition that it remained part of Serbia.

Mr Draskovic, the former opposition figurehead who nearly broke the Milosevic reign in the winter of 1996, is now trying to force change from inside the regime.

He insisted yesterday that he had the backing of his president in advising the Serbs that they were deluding themselves if they thought that Russia was about to go to their rescue.

"Our destiny is in our hands to the extent to which those who lead the country have brains in their heads," he said on Studio B, a television channel controlled by his Serbian

Renewal Movement. "I do not believe there is any sense in the heads of those who are invoking World War Three and lying to the people that Russia would be involved in World War Three. The people should be told the truth: we are on our own."

Mr Draskovic said that he had been driven to his outburst by the unity shown among Nato member states at their weekend summit in Washington. He realised, he said, that hopes of a split emerging in Nato ranks were unfounded, and that Serbia and Yugoslavia had to face reality.

"We must be ready for very urgent and very brave moves towards approaching a compromise and peace based on the Charter of the United Nations," he said. Such overtures would make it clear there would be "no independent Kosovo, no great Albania in the Balkans, and no Kosovo as a third Yugoslav republic".

Analysts were divided about his chances of success. But the cracks in the Yugoslav leadership may go far deeper than the disagreements apparent from Mr Draskovic's broadcast. Government officials, diplomats and Serb exiles spoke of seething discontent with President Milosevic, and claimed that there was a threat of an coup by middle-ranking army officers to remove him.

Dissident Serb exiles said that a circle of potential conspirators was ready to arrest Mr Milosevic for high treason and was waiting only for a signal by Nato.

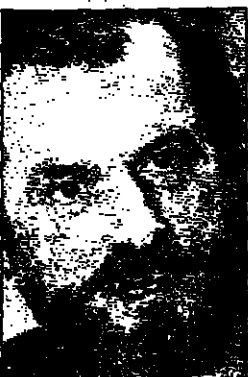
Bratislav Grubacic, the editor of Belgrade's *VIP* newsletter, said in his column that "according to local sources, the interview is probably the result of his estimate that Milosevic will accept armed UN troops in Kosovo. Apparently, Draskovic is jockeying for position".

Mr Grubacic, one of the few independent editors brave enough to keep publishing in Belgrade, speculated that Mr Draskovic "believes he can win over a part of the police force and the army, as well as a part of the ruling party and of the entire coalition".

Most analysts agreed that Mr Draskovic was too powerful to be in danger of assassination. He has been the only politician throughout the air-strikes to court the West, and underlined that Yugoslavia was ready to accept most Western requests on Kosovo.

He recalled that Yugoslavia was one of the UN's founders and estimated the cost of the air-strikes at about £25 billion. He said that damage to the country was worse than in the Second World War.

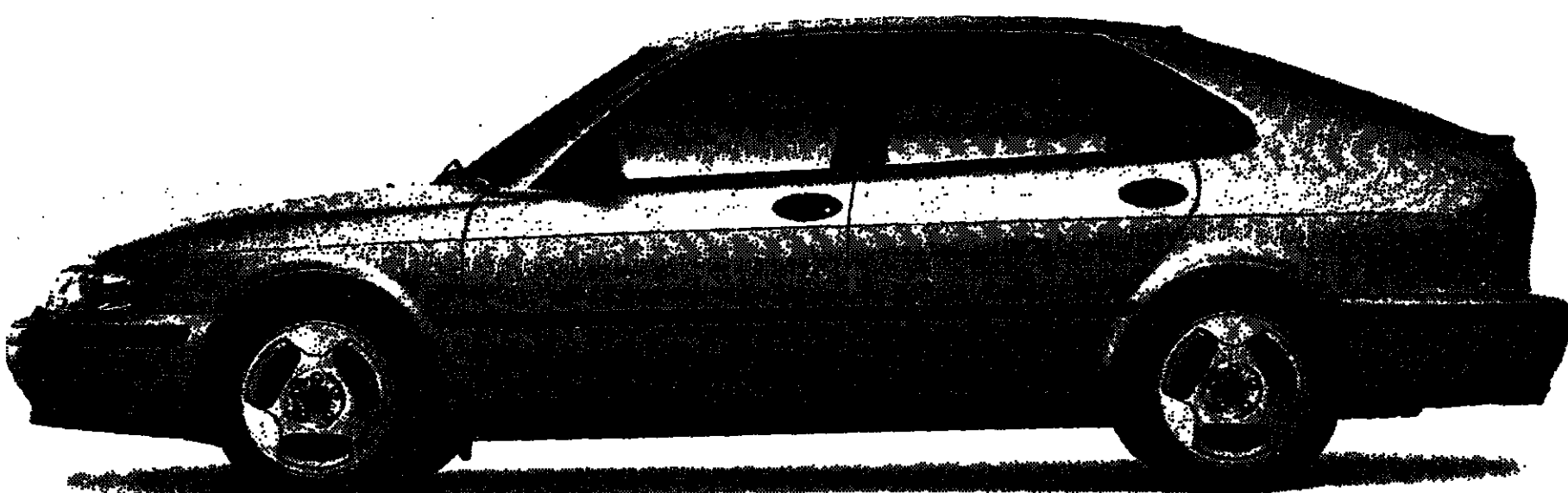
MAN IN THE NEWS



Author rewrote history

ONE of the most charismatic Serbian politicians of the last decade, Vuk Draskovic was at first better known as a writer (Tom Walker writes). His novels dwelt on the inter-ethnic conflicts of the Herzegovina region and his book, *Knife*, has just been made into a film.

In an earlier nationalist phase, he flirted with the far Right led by Vojislav Seselj, and the two were best men to each other. Mr Draskovic now leads the Serbian Renewal Movement that spearheaded the street protests of the winter of 1996-97 against the Milosevic regime. In his latest incarnation, he is a member of the ruling coalition.



Saab vs. Self-Denial

SAAB CONTRACT HIRE

Typical Example: Saab 9-3 2.0i 5 door
For VAT Registered Business Users only

Period of hire	48 months
Deposit	£3,000 plus VAT
Monthly payment	47 x £199 plus VAT
On the road cash price	£17,150
Contract based on 48 months/60,000 miles without maintenance	

PRICES CORRECT AT PRESS DATE. EXCESS MILEAGE CHARGE IS 5.64 PENCE (PLUS VAT) PER MILE. DEPOSIT INCLUDES ACCEPTANCE FEE OF £75 (PLUS VAT). FULL WRITTEN QUOTATION AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. INDEMNITIES MAY BE REQUIRED IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. CAR SHOWN FITTED WITH OPTIONAL ALLOY WHEELS.

Denver killers planned 'apocalypse'

THE devastation at Columbine High School last week was merely the first stage of a broad campaign of terror planned by the two teenage gunmen, it emerged yesterday. They had hoped to kill 500 pupils and teachers, take others hostage, hijack a helicopter and then an airliner, and crash-land it on a major city, officials said.

The apocalyptic scenario was set out in detail in a diary found at Eric Harris's home at the weekend. As police pre-

Teenage gunmen wanted to crash a plane filled with hostages, reports

Giles Whittell in Los Angeles

pared to question an 18-year-old girl suspected of buying guns for the boys, the lawyer who will prosecute any accomplices noted that although the plans in the diary read like "a horrible fantasy", there was little reason to doubt the killers' intentions.

"We now know that at least the first portion of those planned activities were in fact carried out," Dave Thomas, the local district attorney, told NBC yesterday. "Unfortunately, we also know that had a couple of the devices in the school detonated as planned,

the death toll could have been much higher than it was."

A detonator was discovered attached to a large propane tank in the school's catering area last Thursday, supporting police fears that Harris and Dylan Klebold wanted to blow up the school.

The details revealed yesterday, while chilling, may also help to answer mounting criticism from survivors that police SWAT teams could have saved lives by moving faster against the gunmen. Thirteen

died — as well as Harris and Klebold — many after waiting up to three hours for medical help.

The diary indicates that Harris and Klebold planned to attack nearby homes after laying waste to the school, and eventually to crash a hijacked jet, possibly on New York.

The unnamed 18-year-old due to be questioned yesterday was Klebold's girlfriend, Mr Thomas said.

Some of the guns used in the attack, which included two

shotguns, an automatic rifle and a machine pistol, were reportedly bought by her at a recent gun show.

The parents of Harris and Klebold have retained lawyers and stayed in seclusion after being strongly criticised by the local sheriff for failing to spot warning signs of the looming carnage.

Bomb-making materials and the barrel of a sawn-off shotgun were "clearly visible" in one of the teenage gunmen's bedrooms and his parents

"should have known" of the deadly plans, Sheriff John Stone said.

At a memorial service for Littleton's dead, attended by 70,000 mourners on Sunday in Denver, Vice-President Al Gore urged parents to regard the shootings as a wake-up call. "If you are a parent, your children need attention," he said. "If you are a grandparent, they need your time. If you do not have children, there are kids who need your example and presence."

Venezuela backs plan for radical reforms

By GABRIELLA GAMINI
SOUTH AMERICA
CORRESPONDENT

AFTER more than 40 years of democracy, Venezuelans have voted overwhelmingly in favour of plans by President Chávez to tear up the constitution and rebuild the nation, virtually from scratch.

Señor Chávez — a former army colonel who in 1992 led a failed coup — took office in January, vowing to rewrite a constitution that he said had allowed "corrupt and rotten" rule by a minority elite.

On Sunday Venezuelans voted in a referendum, and results released yesterday show that 92 per cent of those who turned out backed the change. And 85 per cent said they were happy with the President's wish to establish a constituent assembly (replacing Congress) to draft the new document.

His most loyal support comes from the vast majority of Venezuelans, who live below the poverty line and are convinced that the old system deprived them of a fair share of the country's oil wealth.

However, critics of Señor Chávez say the poll result fails to give him the moral authority to make the sweeping changes, only 39 per cent of the population having voted.

The opposition had said that anything less than a 50 per cent turnout would make the result invalid. The populist Señor Chávez, known for his autocratic ways and a scant regard for democratic institutions, is accused of pushing the country towards a dictatorship.

Analysts say that while the opposition still argues that the majority of Venezuelans boycotted the poll, the President has a constitutional right to go ahead.

Venezuela's democratic past has been tainted by corruption scandals, with the decision-making elite pocketing most of the early 1980s oil boom wealth. Since oil prices dropped sharply, the country has become one of South America's poorest, marked by economic upheavals and a volatile political leadership.

France's elite seek a lovable image

FROM ADAM SAGE
IN PARIS

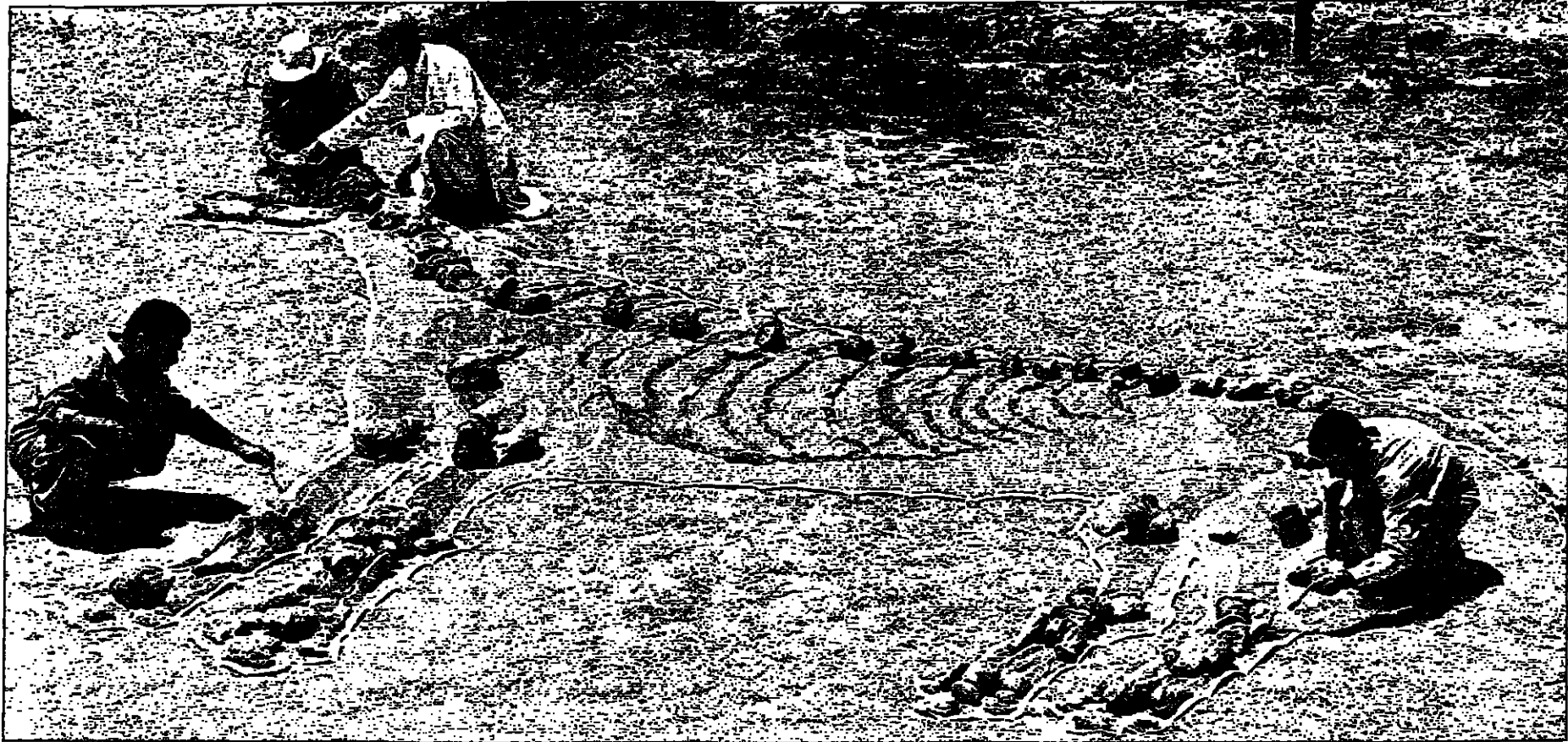
STUDENTS of France's most respected college have written to Lionel Jospin, the Prime Minister, demanding government help to end their reputation for arrogance.

The haughty tone of their letter suggests that the task may be beyond even the sweeping powers of the Prime Minister's office. The students believe they will achieve their goal if they are given less work.

This year's graduates from the elite Ecole Nationale d'Administration, which counts President Chirac and M Jospin among its alumni, blame the packed curriculum for their bad image with the public. They enter the Ecole full of enthusiasm "to serve their fellow citizens", they say in the letter. But this is dampened by a "course without vision or an educational project", according to the 1999 graduates.

Set up in 1945 to train France's brightest students to become high-ranking civil servants, the Ecole is floundering, say the elite rebels. They want a return to "its original mission... to assure a democratic access to the upper civil service". The means to this end should involve a reduction in the number of "repetitive tests and courses".

Critics say the 40 or so graduates from the Ecole each year are imbued not so much with a sense of the state's interests as with a sense of their own importance. Since a large proportion of ministers and industrial leaders are drawn from the Ecole's graduates, they are widely blamed for the poor performance of the French economy in the 1990s.



Archaeologists arrange bones of the Beast of Baluchistan on a sketch in Dera Bugti, in Pakistan's southwestern Baluchistan province. The graveyard of the biggest terrestrial mammal, officially known as the Baluchitherium.

Remains of Beast of Baluchistan found

was found by French scientists from the University of Montpellier and the National Natural History Museum in Paris (Adam Sage

writes). Slightly resembling a rhinoceros, but without horns, the beast measured 15ft in height and weighed about 20 tonnes. The sci-

entists found the remains of 20 beasts in Baluchistan. Philippe Taquet, palaeontology professor at the Natural History Museum,

said: "The first bones belonging to this mammal were discovered in 1913, but no one has ever found skeletons as complete as these."

The beast lived about 50 million years ago, well after the dinosaurs who ruled 65 million years ago.

New York covers up mass exposure in Times Square

New York: An art photographer was hauled away in handcuffs after coaxing 150 exhibitionist New Yorkers to strip naked for a group portrait in Times Square (James Bone writes).

Spencer Turnick, who persuades people to pose nude across America for a series he calls the Naked States

tour, was arrested before he managed to take a photograph of the volunteers, who braved chilly weather shortly after dawn on Sunday to lie down on the street at the "Crossroads of the World".

Mr Turnick, who has been arrested four times previously in connection with displays of nudity in New

York and once in Paris, was charged with organising an unlawful assembly without the proper permit.

"I am an artist. I'm not your traditional photographer," he said. "I use hundreds of people to form abstract shapes in public spaces."

For this picture Mr Turnick, who remained fully clothed, asked his

nude models to point themselves in the direction of ticket booths where tourists buy cut-price seats for Broadway.

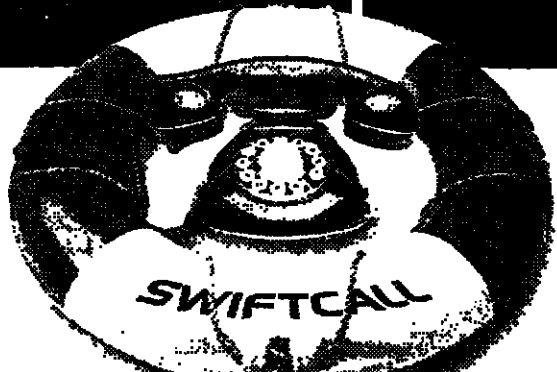
None of the nude models, who were recruited through leaflets handed out at fashionable events, was arrested.

Ronald Kuby, a campaigning law-

yer who is representing the photographer, denounced the arrest as part of a "crackdown on the quality of life and on naked people" by Rudolph Giuliani, the Mayor.

Earlier this month he ordered the arrest of a fun-seeking Norwegian who parachuted off the World Trade Centre.

Save on your international calls.
Add Swiftcall to your BT phone.



COST PER MINUTE	BT*	SWIFTCALL	SAVING	COST PER MINUTE	BT*	SWIFTCALL	SAVING
USA	19p	9p	53%	GERMANY	21p	14p	33%
JAPAN	49p	16p	67%	FRANCE	21p	14p	33%
INDIA	89p	50p	44%	IRELAND	16p	10p	38%
AUSTRALIA	35p	16p	54%	TAIWAN	86p	42p	51%
SOUTH AFRICA	61p	36p	41%	CANADA	19p	12p	37%

All prices are per minute, include VAT and are correct as of 20/3/99

*Includes BT weekend and friends & family rate

Open a Swiftcall account today and make immediate savings on calls to anywhere in the world.

• No need to change your existing

number or phone line. • No hidden charges. • Quality Customer Service and clear lines. • Open an account for as little as £25.

TO OPEN YOUR SWIFTCALL ACCOUNT:

CALL FREE 0800 769 0022 TODAY

SWIFTCALL

SWIFTCALL is part of KDD, Japan's leading international telecommunications company

LOW COST INTERNATIONAL CALLS

Gain muscle without adding pounds.

FREE UP-GRADE TO THE LATEST INTEL® PROCESSOR

When we upgraded this G6 Multimedia PC package

with the latest Intel® Celeron™ 466MHz processor we

made a great deal incredible. Because this package

comes with an Epson colour printer

and a 17" monitor. It's got a modem

and gateway.net™ free internet

access! You can order it now and

pay in April 2000* So now you'll have the muscle

to tackle the 21st Century. Call Gateway and have it

your way, without adding pounds.

0800 74 2000

YOUR G6-466C SE PACKAGE INCLUDES:

FULLY FEATURED MULTIMEDIA PC WITH MODEM

• Epson Stylus™ 440 Colour Printer

• MS® Works Suite 99

• Intel Celeron Processor, 466MHz

• 64MB SDRAM

• 17" EV700 monitor

PAY NOTHING THIS CENTURY

All for £799
(£984.65 incl VAT & Delivery)

Have it your way DIRECT FROM

Gateway

www.gateway.com/uk

Gateway Stores: Croydon The Whitgift Centre • Kingston The Bantall Centre • Covent Garden 10 Bedford Street
Manchester The Trafford Centre • Leeds 95 The Headrow • Kent The Bluewater Centre
Sales Phone Lines Open Monday to Friday 9am-10pm, Saturday 9am-6pm

©1999 Gateway 2000 Europe. All rights reserved. Gateway, YourWay and the Gateway stylized logo are trademarks of Gateway 2000 inc. The Intel Inside Logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of the Intel Corporation. All other brands and product names are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. All sales subject to Gateway 2000 Europe's standard terms and conditions (available on request) and limited warranty. All prices and configurations are subject to change without notice or obligation. All prices are quoted in Sterling. Available with all PCs with a modem. Terms and conditions apply. gateway.net technical support calls are charged at £1 a minute at all times. Offer applies to Windows 95 and 98 systems only. *BUY NOW, PAY APRIL 2000 - available on all our PCs. Typical example: Total cash price including VAT and delivery £984.65. Loan value £984.65. Loan repayments: one repayment in April 2000 of £984.65. Total amount payable £984.65 INTEREST FREE OR: Commencing April 2000, 30 monthly repayments of £54.81. Total amount payable £1644.30. APR 26.5%. Includes interest charged during deferral period. Credit is available only to persons aged 18 years or over, subject to status. Written quotations available on request.

هكذا من الأصل

France's teenage firebombers barred from buying petrol

State grapples with soaring crime as bored youths turn to arson for entertainment, Adam Sage reports

FRENCH teenagers in a high-crime area near Paris were banned yesterday from buying petrol in an attempt to curb their latest fad for hurling petrol bombs at vehicles and emergency services.

The decision by Michel Thénault, prefect in the Yvelines area near Paris, is one of a series of official attempts to clamp down on a youth crime wave. His ruling comes amid

angry public debate about the bored and bitter adolescents who have abandoned petty crime to engage in making petrol bombs.

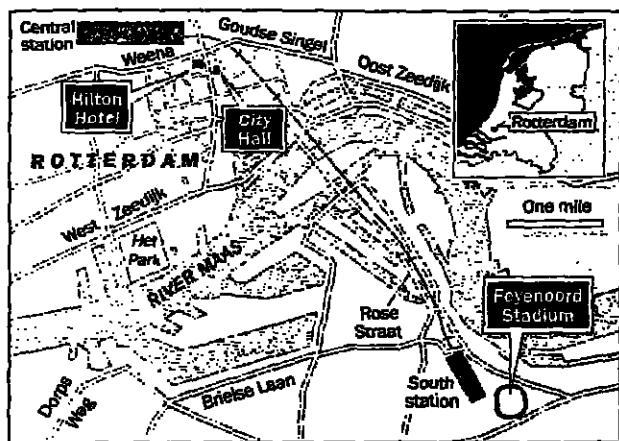
The young arsonists are a familiar sight in suburbs around most French cities, where large immigrant groups suffer from unemployment levels that are higher than the national average of 11 per cent. They equip themselves with plastic petrol cans

and decant the fuel into empty beer bottles. When firemen intervene to put out the resulting blazes, they are often attacked. Police officers in many regions have been told to avoid trying to arrest the offenders for fear of arousing local passions.

In Lyons, central France, more than 1,000 cars were set ablaze last year. In January a car exploded, severely injuring six firemen. Last week, in Yvelines, 15 vehicles were set alight. A gang of teenagers also fire-bombed a youth centre and threw a petrol bomb at a police car. In a neighbouring area another gang bombed a saloon parked outside a police station.

Officers said that it had been an ordinary week in the suburbs of Paris. "We must do something to stop this spread of criminal acts and safeguard everyone's security," M Thénault said. Yesterday's ruling makes it illegal for garages in the region to fill petrol cans belonging to anyone under the age of 18. Teenagers, however, will be able to buy fuel for their scooters, M Thénault said.

The move by the prefect — the Interior Ministry's representative in the department — reflects an increasingly desperate quest by the Government for answers to juvenile crime. Last year, when overall crime rose by 2 per cent, the number of adolescents involved jumped by 11 per cent.



Four shot as Dutch police fire on football rioters

FROM MARK FULLER IN AMSTERDAM

POLICE in Rotterdam fired into a crowd of rioting football fans, wounding four, one critically. Another 12 people suffered injuries, including four police officers. There were 80 arrests during the rioting, on Sunday night.

A police spokesman said there was evidence that officers had come under fire before they shot at a group of 150-200 rioters, who were among the 200,000 fans in the square near the city hall celebrating Feyenoord Rotterdam's league championship victory.

It was the first time Dutch police had fired five bullets at rampaging soccer fans and marked a dark chapter in the history of soccer violence in The Netherlands.

The world has been turned on its head when police have to draw their guns like this," Bram Peper, the Interior Minister, said.

dark shadow over Dutch and Belgian preparations to co-host the European football championships next year. The final is scheduled to be held in Rotterdam.

Police suspect that the rioting was planned. Several fans were armed and there was evidence that shots had been fired at the nearby Hilton Hotel, shattering a window. Officers fired several warning shots before firing into the crowd, Mr Peper said.

Hundreds of shop windows in the centre of the Dutch port city were smashed and guests in the Hilton threw themselves on the floor to avoid a hail of broken glass.

Earlier on Sunday, tens of thousands of people had gathered outside the city hall to cheer the newly-crowned champions. As the crowd dispersed, some threw stones and bottles at police.

Mounted officers repeatedly



Police arrest a Feyenoord supporter during the Rotterdam riot that marked celebrations of the club's title success

charged rioters, and water cannon finally broke up the crowd. As the rioters dispersed, they left a trail of destruction.

"Countless shops have had their display windows smashed and contents looted and most of the parked cars have been vandalised," a photographer said, describing how rioters tore up paving stones and hurled rubbish bins at police. One of the injured officers was said to have been hit by a stone.

It took a force of 750 riot police to restore order at about midnight.

Mr Peper said: "It is terrible that police were put under siege. And that they had to use weapons is crazy." He said a law was being drafted to give police powers to arrest suspected hooligans before a match.

"This was totally unacceptable. It was supposed to be a celebration, but this is the picture that people will remember," Ivo Opstelten, Rotterdam's Mayor, said.

The Dutch Football Association said the riots were "too sad for words". The association said it had asked the Rotterdam authorities for the names of those involved in the disturbances and was likely to ban them for two years from football matches.

Feyenoord supporters have long been associated with hooliganism, but the fans' club said it was baffled and ashamed.

"We had no inkling that this would happen. This has tarnished the name of Feyenoord, the city of Rotterdam and the club's supporters," a spokesman said.

LINKS
<http://www.feyenoord-fanspage.nl/> — Official supporters' club
<http://www.voodoo.demon.nl/index.html> — Feyenoord team magazine
<http://www.livision.nl/~tvb/eng/enghome.htm> — Dutch national team



The Pope fears terrorist attacks at millennium

Unemployed spies offered Vatican jobs

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

THE Vatican is to recruit secret agents from Western intelligence services to improve security in the Holy See and protect the Pope during the millennium celebrations.

On Saturday the Vatican's official gazette, the *Acta Apostolicae Sedis*, said the tiny city state had set up a committee for security.

The Pope named Cardinal Edmund Szoka, an American, as its chairman. He will collate information on possible security threats when as many as 30 million pilgrims visit Rome for the millennium.

Vatican officials have been examining security for the arrival in St Peter's Square next Sunday of hundreds of thousands of people who will witness the Pope's beatification of Padre Pio, the Italian priest and mystic who died in 1968. The ceremony is expected to attract 375,000 people from outside Rome, and is seen by Vatican sources as a rehearsal for the Holy Year — which the Interior Ministry says could lead to terrorist attacks.

The new security committee will co-ordinate the work of the 100-strong Swiss Guard, the Pope's colourful private army, and the 120 men of the *Corpo di Vigilanza*, the Vatican's uniformed police.

Retired members of both forces will help with jubilee crowds and guard against an attack on the Pope.

On May 13, 1981, Mehmet Ali Agca, a Turk, shot and seriously wounded Pope John Paul in St Peter's Square.

Franco Frattini, the chairman of the Parliamentary Committee overseeing Italy's Secret Services, announced that the Vatican would set up a counter-intelligence service. Its agents — former employees of Western spy organisations — will work with their Italian counterparts.

Signor Frattini told *Il Messaggero* newspaper: "They will have to be reliable and above all have an immaculate curriculum, because they will need to be trustworthy."

He said that agents from Sismi, Italy's military intelligence, and Sisd, the country's counter-intelligence agency, could not spy for the Pope.

"I don't believe we will lend secret agents. Italian personnel cannot be put in the employ of a foreign state, not even the Vatican. I believe the

Vatican will be able to recruit and train outside operatives. The intelligence market offers highly specialised staff.

"Unemployment is rife among secret agents, especially those from Eastern Europe, though I do not suppose the Vatican will want to recruit former KGB or Stasi agents."

"Those people excluded, the Vatican will have to find people with an adequate résumé to have worked in the Western world. Those are the basic conditions for being able to co-ordinate with our OOVs."

Intelligence experts at the Palazzo Chigi, the office of the Italian Prime Minister, would liaise with the Holy See to ensure the Vatican selected people who would not endanger Italy's security, said Signor Frattini.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Kremlin rocked by hotel blast

Moscow: Ten people were hurt yesterday when an explosion ripped through a hotel just yards from the Kremlin, spraying the busy Tverskaya boulevard with glass and debris. Police, special forces and Federal Security Service agents sealed off the immediate area around the Intourist Hotel, pushing back crowds of office workers, tourists and journalists. Although officials at the scene refused to comment on the blast, a Moscow police spokeswoman said it had been caused by a 2lb explosive charge in a service lift on the 20th floor. Officials said that President Yeltsin was not in the Kremlin at the time of the blast, which one parliamentary aide said was audible in the nearby Duma. (AFP)

New Indian election

President Narayanan dissolved India's lower house of parliament, paving the way for a third general election in three years after the failure of the main opposition Congress party to form a new government (Michael Binyon writes). The order came hours after the outgoing Hindu nationalist Government of Atal Bihari Vajpayee called for a dissolution. On Sunday Sonia Gandhi, the Congress party leader, ruled out a minority government with the understanding of other opposition parties.

Cairo frees militants

Nicosia: Egypt has freed more than 1,000 Islamic militants in the biggest such prisoner release since fundamentalists launched an armed campaign to topple President Mubarak's pro-Western Government seven years ago (Michael Theodorou writes). All were members of al-Gamaa al-Islamiya, the Islamic group that said last month that it was halting all armed operations. Defence lawyers welcomed the move as a conciliatory gesture that would help to reduce tension and violence.

Pay rise for Euro MPs

Luxembourg: British MEPs will enjoy a £3,000 annual pay rise under an accord by European Union ministers that aims to clean up the gray-train image of the European Parliament (Charles Bremner writes). The ministers set a standard annual salary of £47,700, ending the system by which members received the same as MPs in their national legislatures. The sum is about £3,000 higher than for a member of the House of Commons. The package also restricts their expenses claims.

Palestinian 'UDI' talks

Jerusalem: The Palestinian Central Council will begin a session in Gaza today to decide whether to implement earlier threats by Yasser Arafat to declare an independent Palestinian state on May 4, the end of the five-year autonomy period agreed at Oslo (Christopher Walker writes). Mr Arafat's supporters were under international Israeli pressure to defer the decision, at least until after the Israeli election on May 17, and possibly for months longer, to allow the stalled peace talks a new chance.

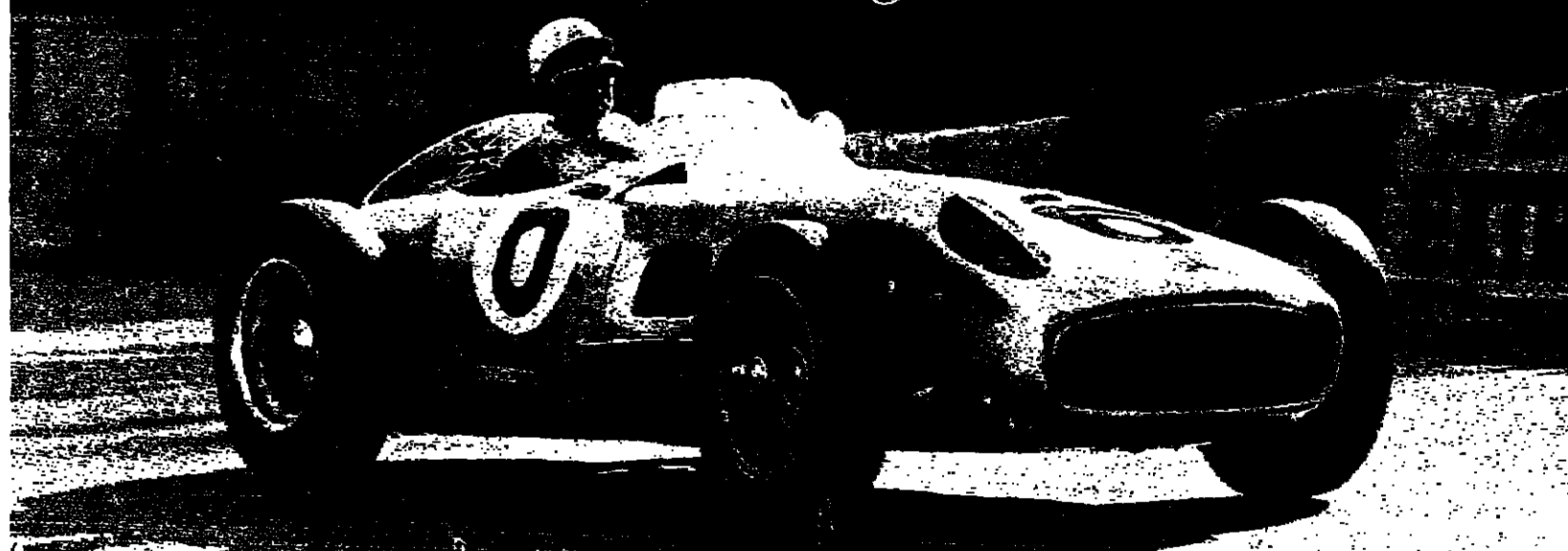
Pavarotti tax bill

Rome: Luciano Pavarotti owes the Italian tax authorities about £1.5 million, according to a Finance Ministry report. Magistrates rejected an appeal by the tenor, who insisted that his main residence was in Monaco. They said the address in Monte Carlo was only a formal one and could not accommodate the singer's entire family, who, the ministry said, lived in the northern Italian town of Modena. (AFP)

Berezovsky charged

Moscow: Boris Berezovsky, the tycoon with business links to President Yeltsin's daughter, has been charged with money laundering and barred from leaving the capital while under investigation. Mr Berezovsky, left, at the prosecutor's office, is accused of smuggling hard-currency profits from Aeroflot to a shell company he had set up in Switzerland. (AFP)

"Mercedes-Benz servicing for older models?"



A Mercedes-Benz will last a lifetime. But only if it's properly cared for. And that's easier than ever, now that your Mercedes-Benz dealer is offering low parts prices and fixed cost servicing for older Mercedes models.

So you get great value for money on genuine parts and servicing from fully trained staff. Without having to shop around. How do you find your nearest dealer? Simple. Just call. That's all.

Just call. That's all.
0800 665460



She could have been your sister

Grace Bradberry on why the death of Jill Dando has affected so many people

A brutal death is always shocking. But Jill Dando's is shocking in the way that the violent death of a neighbour would be, or the arrest of the local vicar for armed robbery. She was successful precisely because you felt that she could have been your sister or your best friend; and therein lies the reason so many feel so affected by her murder — it is utterly unlikely and disturbingly close to home.

"She was extraordinary in her ordinariness," was how Leslie Fike, the chairman of Weston Hospicecare, put it yesterday, and that view has been repeated, in different words, by friends and colleagues alike. "A very uncomplicated star," was Alan Yentob's tribute. "A natural human being," said the TV producer Chris Denham, adding that Dando was the perfect dinner party guest. Hundreds of thousands of people around the country could imagine having Dando to dinner. Hundreds of thousands more could imagine dropping round to borrow a cup of sugar from her. In one survey she was voted the neighbour the British public would most like to have.

So we all understood when John Humphrys yesterday described himself as "inarticulate" with shock. "It's the oldest cliché in the book, but she just was an ordinary person," he added. "She wasn't carried away by her fame. Too many people, if they are on the box often enough, start to believe in their own publicity. It didn't happen to Jill." There was something vaguely incongruous about the appearance of Kate Adie, the hotshot reporter, being dispatched to Dando's street yesterday.

She was murdered in the doorway of her home in Fulham, southwest London, and found by a neighbour. Another neighbour thought that the killing must have taken place as she was hosting a coffee morning. However, chichi Fulham may be (and Dando lived in the suburban part, not the starchy bit), it is a neighbourhood. You would never have imagined Jill Dando moving into a loft in Clerkenwell, a portered flat in Kensington or a stronghold on the Wentworth Estate — although she had been successful enough to afford any of those places (she was reported to have signed a £500,000 two-year deal with the BBC).

"I don't lead a very show-biz life," she admitted in a recent interview with *Hello!* magazine. She did not employ a secretary to answer her mail. She enjoyed the cinema and shopping. She liked to go out to dinner with friends. She had met her fiancé Alan Farningham, a gynaecologist, through friends — not at a celebrity party, an establishment dinner or the home of some rich and famous acquaintance. Colleagues gave testimony to how much in love with him she was, how thrilled by the prospect of their forthcoming wedding. Yes, she was good-looking: Nick Ross, with whom she co-presented *Crimewatch UK*, says that she turned heads wherever they went, but her looks were somehow ordinary.

She was like most of us, rather cautious at heart

Condolence books are being opened at the BBC and the switchboards have been flooded with calls from the public — echoing "the people's" response to the death of another "ordinary star", Diana, Princess of Wales. Part of this feeling no doubt comes down to the length of time that both women spent in our living rooms, smiling at us from a box in the corner. Dando fronted some of the BBC's most popular programmes — not only *Crimewatch UK*, but also *Breakfast Time*, the *Six O'Clock News* and the *Holiday* show, which she left after seven years, tired of touring the world. To publicise her latest project — presenting BBC1's *Antiques Inspection* — she dressed in black leather for the cover of *Radio Times*. The pictures caused a ripple of pleasurable astonishment. She was talked into it, you surmise — though there is no proof of this, and Dando certainly had gumption.

A bespectacled and serious schoolgirl, Dando had the kind of protected, provincial upbringing that lots of people (myself included) enjoyed — but which somehow isn't fashionable, or even usual, among the metropolitan media elite. She grew up in the seaside town of Weston-super-Mare and, though she was given a life-saving heart operation at the age of three, the rest of her early life was unremarkable. Out of school her social life centred on the church youth group. Until she was 22 she had not even been abroad.

She was only 24 when her mother, to whom she had been incredibly close, died of leukaemia. She once admitted that had her mother still been alive — such was the bond — that she might never have accepted her first job in London.



Jill Dando, the television presenter, who was murdered yesterday. "The person you saw on screen was the same as the person off screen. That lack of affectation came through"



Dando with her fiancé Alan Farningham

It was there that her life really took off. She lived with her *Breakfast News* boss, 52-year-old Bob Wheaton, for six years until the relationship ended in January 1997. The catalyst was a holiday romance with a

game-warden named Simon Basil, whom she met on a safari for the *Holiday* programme. She said the romance marked a more go-getting phase in her life. Although Dando reaped the rewards we associate with risk-taking, she was, in fact — like most of the rest of us — rather cautious at heart.

The absence of outrage provoked some commentators to describe her as bland. Last year a tabloid staged a debate between two writers, with one insisting that she could barely distinguish Dando from Sophie Rhys-Jones (a common comparison that irritated the television presenter), and the other, a man, comparing her to the heavy heroines of John Betjeman's poems. Betjeman was the poet of middle-class, suburban England, which is so appropriate because among this constitu-

cy Dando was everything you could wish for in a public figure: beautiful, warm, trustworthy, unpretentious. Viewers believed what Nicholas Witchell yesterday confirmed: "The person you saw on screen was the same as the person off screen." That was part of the reason for her success. In 1997 she was voted BBC Personality of the Year. No one was surprised when she was widely predicted to be the BBC's millennium night presenter.

Yet the question that comes to mind when you think of Dando's death is not "how could this happen to such a famous, successful person?" but "how could this happen to someone like us, in a street like ours?" Whatever nightmares we might have experienced after watching Dando and Ross on *Crimewatch UK*, most non-domestic murders happen to young working-class men. They occur on drug-ridden housing estates, or outside the rougher pubs and nightclubs. They don't happen to Jill Dando in Fulham.

The struggle to beat a cycle of violence

Ismail Zakuti spends his days playing basketball on a patch of ground close to the gates at Brazzaville. In his home town of Pristina he witnessed beatings, saw young men led away by the Serb police, and came across the bodies of three men lying murdered in a garage. He is only 15. This is still his childhood — or should be.

Even during war Kosovo's children must have rights, says Grace Bradberry

set out for Macedonia, accompanying Mike Aaronson, director-general of Save the Children, I assumed that these aims would be relatively easy to accomplish in Europe. Not so.

Rather than running camps in the region, the charity is engaged in projects which include tracing children and parents who have become separated (in which is specialises), distributing "family packs" to refugees living outside the camps, and providing medical aid in the region. All these programmes were going well. Yet every refugee child I spoke to mentioned school as the thing they really missed from their former lives. The charity has recruited 20 teachers from among the refugees, it has an education programme — but it has no tent in which to set up class.

Two other aims are closer to home: it wants an end to the physical punishment of children and to tackle the poverty which the charity believes leads to violence.

Most important of all, the organisers of the campaign want to jog us out of our collective complacency.

That children have rights beyond food and shelter was one of the basic beliefs of Eglantyne Jebb, the founder of Save the Children. She established the charity in 1919, after she witnessed the suffering of children in the aftermath of the Balkan War and the First World War. "Every war is a war against the child," she said afterwards. In 1923 she published a document called *The Rights of the Child*, which became enshrined in the 1989 United Nations convention on the rights of the child.

Among other things the convention guarantees children a good education, leisure activities and an adequate standard of living. These might be difficult to achieve in Africa, but when I

For that it is reliant on the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the lead agency. The UNHCR is still struggling to provide tents for the influx of refugees, and appears to be facing obstruction from the Macedonian authorities.

Gazing round at the desolate faces in one of the smaller camps, Mike Aaronson says: "There's a lack of imagination being shown here. The Macedonians are being allowed to dictate what happens to these refugees. But these are people with certain rights. The Macedonian Government has signed all the conventions — it needs to be reassured that it won't be left with the burden."

However, turning the words of conventions into a reality in the lives of Kosovo refugees will take an act of will on the part of countries throughout Europe.

How to tape obesity's measure

People who worry about their weight have made a trip to the bathroom scales the second most urgent task each morning. There is now a simpler regime and a tape measure is all that is needed.

Once the girth of the waist is known doctors should have an immediate idea whether they are dealing with a problem of obesity and, if so, how bad it is. A few years ago, doctors were apt to measure waist and hip girth and the ratio of the two was found to reveal any obesity and therefore a likelihood of developing the diseases associated with it. However, patients looked rather surprised when their, possibly previously remote, doctor went down like a tailor

on his or her knees, produced a tape measure and recorded the size of their tummy and bottom.

It has now been shown that a simple waist measurement is all that is needed to assess obesity. Women should have a waist measurement of not more than 32in (80cm) and men 37in (94cm). As long as they keep within these parameters, they don't have to worry too much about having pudding. Doctors will start to get concerned about a female patient if her waist measurement reaches 35in (88cm) or a man has a waistband of 40in (102cm) or above.

Doctors good at mental arithmetic still like to work out the BMI (the body mass index), which is calculated by dividing the patient's weight in kilograms by his or her height in metres squared. If the BMI is more than 25, the patient has exceeded the recommended calculation and is considered overweight; if more than 30, he or she is technically obese and if the figure is more than 40, grossly obese.

Professor Michael Lean, Professor of Human Nutrition at Glasgow University, has written a book *Clinical Handbook of Weight Management* which, although it includes all the science of nutrition, is admirably concise and easy to understand. It is intended for health professionals but it would supply any interested lay person with the facts and figures behind any campaign to lose weight and explains the reasons why doctors are so concerned about excessive weight.

even gross obesity. There are television advertising campaigns extolling the fattening virtues of one sweetened soft drink as opposed to another. Doctors confronted by a seriously overweight patient think in terms of the increased mortality from cardiovascular causes, in particular a rise in blood pressure which carries with it the greater likelihood of strokes, coronary thromboses, an enlarged heart and eventually, heart failure.

The doctors will also worry about other conditions which are associated with obesity, in particular non-insulin dependent diabetes, so-called Type 2 diabetes which can be responsible for so much ill-health in later life. Other problems of

being overweight may not be as life-threatening but can cause arthritic knees, loss of tenhops, breathlessness, incontinence, infertility and menstrual irregularity and, if the patient has any coronary heart disease, angina.

A new drug, Xenical, is available for the appreciably overweight or those who, if merely overweight, already have health problems. It is likely to work only if a patient has the strength of will to cut his or her fat intake. It will transform drug therapy in obesity even though the history of drugs in the treatment of the overweight has been both disappointing and dangerous.

Medication can have only a very limited use when dieting has failed. It is to be expected that Xenical will be the treatment of choice for those who cannot adapt their lifestyle and will thereby improve life expectancy. Xenical is effective because it prevents the absorption of fat and, naturally enough, if fat is not absorbed it cannot contribute calories to increase the waistband.

Fat is essential for the absorption of some vitamins and in some cases additional vitamins may be needed. The excretion of additional fat may cause "tummy upsets" and some perianal skin. This encourages patients to cut their fat intake and to have three similar-sized meals each day, rather than one heavy, fatty meal in the evening.

● Clinical Handbook of Weight Management is published by Martin Duniz at £14.95

MEDICINE CHEST

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD

INDIA - GOA & THE TAJ
Goa Beach + Taj Tour - 14 Nights
Depart from Gatwick on Saturday

An ideal opportunity to combine the sun drenched beaches of Goa, relaxing at the Holiday Inn Hotel, with the delights of Rajasthan. Visit the Amber Fort, the 'Pink City' of Jaipur, the spectacular Palace of Winds and the magnificent Taj Mahal at Agra.

09 & 10 October 99	£2999	18 December 99	£1549
21 October 99 - 04 December 99	£2949	25 December 99 & 01 January 00	£1249
11 December 99	£1199	08 January 00 - 29 April 00	£2499

For reservations or more information call
0181 422 9966
E-mail: ashnil@ashnil.co.uk
Open daily including Saturdays

ASHNIL HOLIDAYS
A leading chain of British Travel Ltd
Established 1965

HERNIA

- Mesh Hernia Repair
- Safe Effective Technique
- Specialist Hernia Surgeon
- Day Case or Overnight Stay
- Rapid Return to Normal
- Health Authority Registered

For more information contact
LONDON HERNIA CENTRE
0171 328 1228



LASER HAIR REMOVAL
(FOR MEN AND WOMEN)

Our laser treatment removes unwanted body and facial hair gently, quickly and effectively, with long lasting results.

Problem areas treated include face, under-arms, bikini line, legs, body, male chest and back.

For a confidential consultation with a senior nurse, without charge, please call the freephone number below to get instantly connected to your nearest clinic. Credit facilities are available.

TELEPHONE: 0800 917 9000

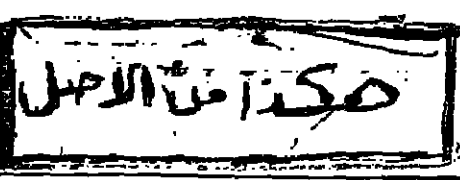
THE HARLEY MEDICAL GROUP

ESTABLISHED 1993

CLINICS IN LONDON (HARLEY STREET, THE CITY AND WIMBORNE), BIRMINGHAM, BRIGHTON, BRISTOL, LEEDS, MANCHESTER, NEWCASTLE

هكذا من الأصل

APRIL 27 1999
sister



GEORGE WALDEN: MEMOIRS OF AN ANTI-POLITICIAN

The FO was worse than Yes, Minister

In the second extract from his memoir, George Walden describes the intricate euphemisms he had to learn as a diplomatic go-between

1979: MY FIRST day working for David Owen went as badly as it could. It began with a breakfast with the then deputy US Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, whom President Carter had dispatched to London to confer over one of the hottest issues of the day: the deployment of the neutron bomb in Europe. The attraction of the weapon, so to speak, was that it did more damage to military personnel than to buildings. As I told Christopher when we met again years later, after he had served as Clinton's first Secretary of State and I had become a politician, that though it was never to be deployed, the neutron bomb damned nearly did for me.

The breakfast took place in the Foreign Secretary's official residence. Only Owen, Christopher and I were present. It was my first experience of working breakfasts and I was perhaps not as alert as I might have been. Though interested in their conversation, if only because my knowledge of nuclear affairs was so much less than theirs, I concentrated on the magnificent English breakfast — bacon and egg, mushrooms, tomatoes, kippers — a feast after my Parisian coffee and croissants. As the exchanges, so technical they seemed to me to be encoded, went back and forth — Owen, a former minister at the MoD, seemed horribly expert on the details — it crossed my mind that instead of relying on memory, I should be making a note, so as to discover at my leisure what ALCMs, SLCMs and GLCMs and suchlike might be (air, submarine and ground-launched cruise missiles). Deciding that scribbling at table

DAVID OWEN

in such an intimate gathering would be impolite, I cocked an ear to the conversation while concentrating on my breakfast. Not understanding what the talk was about, recording it would also have been difficult. After a couple of hours' intense conversation, Christopher went his way. I had enjoyed the meal, picked up useful knowledge and assumed that this was the end of my day's work. I was wrong. As Owen, in a hurry to get to his Plymouth constituency, stalked to the door, where his wife and children were waiting, he fired instructions at me till the moment he got into the car. The suggestion seemed to be that I should send a top-secret minute to the Prime Minister, over his name, reporting the conversation, which he clearly saw as important, that afternoon. He emphasised that the discussion was hypersensitive and that knowledge be restricted to a tiny circle: the Defence Secretary, Denis Healey, and a handful of nuclear specialists.

It was the worst afternoon of my diplomatic career. I was alone in the Foreign Office. I needed to talk to a nuclear expert, quickly, and on a secret line. I looked at my telephone. There were four, two of them studded with mysterious buttons, scramblers, I presumed. I thought of phoning Owen in his constituency, on the pretext

of refining a few details, then remembered that whereas I had a scrambler I could not use, he was unlikely to have one at all. When I went for a pee in the Foreign Secretary's private lavatory (I hadn't discovered where our own were), I studied the antique plumbing for a long time, as if the answer to my predicament lay in the configuration of the pipes. I returned to find No 10 on the line, asking when the Prime Minister could expect a report of Owen's conversation. Having discovered who was and was not in the 'charmed circle', I called two experts in. Between us we reconstructed the sort of conversation about the neutron bomb Owen ought to have had with Christopher (the difficulty being that Owen was notorious for having his own ideas on policy). Eventually a minute was duly concocted and sent to No 10. I got home late that evening, fearful that my first contribution to serious diplomacy would bring about a transatlantic misunderstanding over nuclear weapons, and feeling faintly sick.

Under pressure you learn quickly, and there were few Foreign Secretaries capable of keeping the pressure as high as David Owen. Everything was done against the clock, and if you didn't stay cool you would go to pieces. The pressure on the private secretary came from two sides: ministers and diplomats. A policy recommendation would be

I focused on the great breakfast rather than the talks



Walden with Pierre Mauroy (later Prime Minister of France) and David Owen: "Few Foreign Secretaries could keep the pressure as high as Owen"

called for and a Foreign Office official far senior to myself would "walk it in" to the private office, partly for speed, partly to impress on me that it was up to me to sell the line to the Foreign Secretary. If I pointed out that David Owen was particularly resistant to that line of argument, the response was that I would need

to be particularly persuasive. The toughest diplomacy, I was learning the hard way, begins at home.

Once the Foreign Secretary had agreed — or altered — the line, sometimes after urgent meetings, you wrote a letter to the Prime Minister's diplomatic adviser in No 10 — at the time it was Bryan Cartledge:

"Dear Bryan, the Foreign Secretary is minded... I would be grateful for the Prime Minister's concurrence..." Always say "is minded" rather than "has decided", which pre-empt the Prime Minister's choice in the matter, and never use English words when a Latin one is available. In matters of state the agreement of

the PM was not enough — you needed his concurrence. Then the line-selling would begin again, though this time, I was the seller. If my opposite number in No 10 rang to say that my letter wouldn't wash, the Prime Minister being especially resistant to that line of argument, well, I would retort, that is why the Foreign Secre-

tary was relying on you to put it to him persuasively. Compared with the reality, it struck me later, as a comedy. Yes, Minister was understated.

● Extracted from *Lucky George* by George Walden, published by Penguin on May 6. £17.99; available to Times readers for £15, p.p.p., from The Times Bookshop, 0900 134450.

A room full of fear

SADDAM HUSSEIN

IN 1980 Lord Carrington and I went to see Saddam Hussein. The Iran-Iraq War was raging and Baghdad bristled with weaponry. In the guest palace where we stayed a good-looking female soldier sat at the end of our corridor, a sub-machinegun over her lap, like a male fantasy figure in a bad movie. In Saddam's outer office his assistants wore knives as well as pistols in their belts. As we were about to go in for our audience one of them signalled towards my briefcase. On no account could I take it into the meeting with the President, presumably since I clearly intended to blow up Saddam. Carrington and myself. The more I argued, the more the tough guy insisted: the briefcase had to stay outside.

Under duress I acquiesced: there was nothing inside except my notepads and the spare toothbrush and extra pair of socks I had learnt to carry with me at all times.

The talks proved a memorable occasion, not for anything that was said but for the atmosphere in the room. In those years of continent-roaming I met some less than clean-living gentlemen: thugish African generals, Gal-berish South Americans, drug-running Caribbean ministers, or dictators such as Ceausescu of Romania, the tic in whose left eye made you feel that, should someone mistake it for a command, heads might roll. Yet in terms of movie-style villainy, the Iraqi President was the star. Meeting Saddam was like making a call on Bugsy Malone. He and his entourage looked



Askew: Saddam Hussein

and behaved like the sub-Chicago gangsters they have proved to be.

While in the colour of fear and there was no lack of it in the room. Saddam was dressed in white suit and silver tie, offset by a missile-sized cigar. When he smiled, teeth like bleached gravestones appeared beneath the macho moustache. The pallid complexion of his entourage's faces betrayed terror, for the President was in capricious mood. After the introductory affabilities he frowned, complaining that the atmosphere in the room was stuffy — hardly surprising given the fug got up by his cigar. Instantly a minion leapt for a window and pawed at it fruitlessly: it was sealed tight, for security reasons, I presumed.

The high point came at the end of the meeting, when there was an official photograph. The photographer, an Iraqi, lined us up round the still-sitting President. As he was about to take his snap the photographer paused, studying the President nervily: he had noticed that Saddam's tie was askew and was wondering what to do about it. Finally, not daring to ask him to straighten it, he put his camera aside, got down on his belly, crawled towards him and, while the mobster President smiled on, reached up beneath the white suit and tweaked the tie into place. After that scene nothing Saddam Hussein has said or done since has surprised me.

POWELL, BENN, FOOT

AS A NEW MP I watched the performances of many people on both sides of the House with awe. The least impressive, it seemed to me, were Enoch Powell, Tony Benn and Michael Foot — seen then as the three great parliamentarians of the time.

To them I listened with distaste. What struck me was how much they had in common. All were burning patriots who had done precious little for their country in their long parliamentary careers and, each in his way, a deal of harm.

Powell appealed to bigotry and was to find his spiritual home in the racist politics of Northern Ireland. Foot and Benn, contrary to right-wing belief, were no Marxists. Marxism demanding a degree of intellectual discipline, but self-indulgent patriots. All were essentially small

men affecting the postures of great ones. All were fiery orators and intellectual mountebanks (Foot's book on H.G. Wells and Powell's cranky theories on the Gospels were laughed to scorn by expert critics). All were Europhobes and Americanophobes, strop Little Englanders who, in so far as they were known at all, enjoyed no status or respect beyond our shores.

All had quirky mannerisms and passionate convictions, and none of them had judgment. Powell, Foot and Benn, I reflected as I watched their stately orations and listened to their histrionic voices, commanded attention because they played on Parliament's fatal nostalgia and its capacity to mistake the sedulously antiquated fake for the original. When there are no fish, as the saying goes, even the crayfish are fish.

TOMORROW

Travelling with the Queen: "Never display natural human emotions, such as impatience or surprise"

Think BIG about your PC

think...

UNBEATABLE VALUE



NOTHING BEATS THIS PENTIUM III OFFER

POWER ONLINE SYSTEM 450
INTEL® PENTIUM® III
PROCESSOR 450MHZ

£899 EX VAT

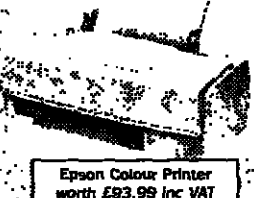
COLOUR SCANNER

COLOUR PRINTER

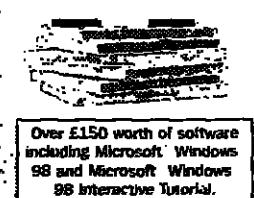
SOFTWARE INCLUDED



USB Colour Scanner worth £52.94 inc VAT



Epson Colour Printer worth £93.99 inc VAT



Over £150 worth of software including Microsoft® Windows 98 and Microsoft® Windows 95 Interactive Tutorial.



DVD-ROM drive compatible with CD-R

NATURALLY ALL TINY PCs ARE YEAR 2000 GUARANTEED MILLENNIUM BUG FREE

PICK UP YOUR FREE TINY ONLINE CD AT ANY TINY SHOWROOM NOW!

NOTHING TO PAY FOR 12 MONTHS

0%

NOT EVEN A DEPOSIT

26.9% APR

POWER ONLINE SYSTEM 450 - PC cash price £1099.28 inc VAT, Delivery £34.00 + VAT @ 17.5% (England & Wales mainland only). Pay whole balance on or before due payment date interest free. Alternatively pay 36 monthly payments of £53.54. Total amount payable £1927.44. APR 26.9%. Interest calculated from day one of the agreement. Written quotations upon request. Finance subject to status.

TINY COMPUTERS LIMITED, REDHILL BUSINESS PARK, BONEHURST ROAD, SALFORDS, REDHILL, SURREY RH1 5YB. FAX 01263 622 614. WWW.TINY.COM

...think TINY

99 SHOWROOMS NATIONWIDE
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
JUST 10 MINUTES FROM THE M1
NOW OPEN

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| ABERDEEN | ALDERMOUTH | ANDOVER | BARNET | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |
| BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |
| BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |
| BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |
| BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |
| BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |
| BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |
| BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |
| BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |
| BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM |

CALL NOW
0800 731 9372

At showrooms nationwide. 30 days and more. All products are subject to change without notice. Please check availability before ordering. Goods are offered for sale subject to standard conditions of sale. Repairs, in accordance with Intel Inside Logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of the Intel Corporation. Tiny Computers Limited is part of the OT group. Offers subject to availability. *2000 not inc. CEP.

A striptease that costs too much

The Tories' gyration to Hey Big Spender is just embarrassing

Of all the curious places in which politicians now find themselves, whether on *This Morning* with Richard and Judy or a Thai massage parlour in Northampton, no location is as undignified as being "in the centre".

Where is this centre? It seems to be where the lowest common denominator and the highest possible public spending meet. And that is never the same place from one day to the next. The centre, like a dune in the desert, is a landmark that shifts as time, nature and the imprint of man do their work. The centre certainly shifted between 1979 and 1990. First the Tory party, and then Britain, followed the footprints of one woman out of the wilderness.

Because it is not a settled habitation, the centre is, like the sands of the Sahara, an arid region where no principles can take root, no institution can be sure of its foundation, no banner can be firmly placed. For that reason, it is a particularly shameful place for politicians to be.

It is possible to be principled yet showy, and find oneself on daytime television. It is possible to be politically principled yet personally fallible and find oneself in an East Midlands jacuzzi with a lady of easy virtue. But it is no more possible to head for the centre and keep one's principles than it is to feel comfortable in a jacuzzi while fully clothed. The natural inhabitants of the centre are those politicians of easy virtue, happy to massage public opinion but never to challenge it.

In the past week, the Conservatives have attempted to shift towards the centre, directed by their focus groups and ditching their Thatcherite clothing on the way. Last Tuesday Peter Lilley declared that Tories must "openly and emphatically accept that the free market has only a limited role in improving public services like health, education and welfare".

Really? As Lord Young, Mr Lilley's former colleague in Mrs Thatcher's Government, put it last Friday: "The only discipline that really works in the long run is the market. Any thought that any government can run public services without the stimulus of the market is self-delusion. Ask any Russian."

But the Conservatives prefer to ask their focus groups. They treat them as showgirls treat the audience in a lap-dancing bar, seeking approval by discarding their old garments. But they have tossed into the corner, like an unwanted brassiere, one of the last things that gave them solid support and kept them respectable.

They have forfeited fixed principles for fleeting attention. By admitting, as Mr Lilley did, that his speech was informed by "all the opinion polling evidence", he lost one of the few clear advantages the Tories had over Labour — the view that Conservatives were people of conviction and Blairites creatures of calculation.

Mr Lilley and his colleagues hope, however, that the real change in public perception will be the transformation of

the Tories into the party of the public sector. To which one can only ask, has Mr Lilley heard of a man called John Major? The last Tory Prime Minister, a description which is beginning to sound like an epitaph, spent his entire premiership trying to make the Conservatives look like the public sector's sugar daddies.

From the unveiling of the Citizen's Charter to the election pledge to increase NHS spending above inflation, the Major administration sprayed cash at the public sector. Almost the first act of that Government was a public spending spree intended to show that it cared. And where did it all end? In tax increases, broken promises and humiliation at the polls.

The Tories did not lose in 1997 because they failed to emphasise their commitment to the public sector. They lost because they debauched the public finances in pursuit of the "centre ground" and added to the pain by clinging to another tad of the centre, the ERM. The Tories won the four elections before 1997, even though opinion polls suggested that Labour was more trusted on the public services, because the Conservatives believed that small government and low taxes were superior to more government and higher taxes. Not just more popular but morally superior.

There are four types of spending. You can spend your own money on yourself. You can spend your own money on other people. You can spend other people's money on you. And, finally, you can spend other people's money on other people. Unsurprisingly, the spender in the last category cares least about how the money is spent.

This is, of course, how the State spends money. Which is why it was mistaken of William Hague to have argued in *The Times* last week that the Tories can avoid seeming "uncaring" by supporting the state supply of taxpayer-funded services. If you measure "caring" by how much you take from the taxpayer to give to the public sector, then let's salute the biggest-hearted leader of 'em all, Uncle Joe Stalin.

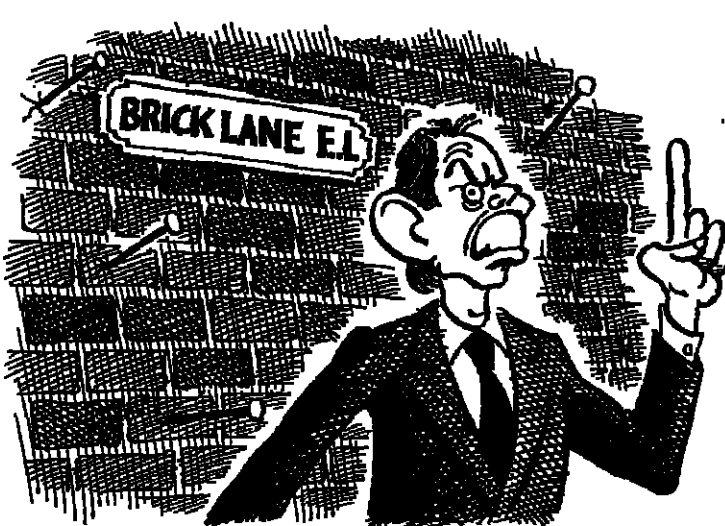
Governments don't care, people do. By empowering people, as parents and patients, the services they care about improve. The Shadow Chancellor, Francis Maude, promised last night that he would spend as much as Gordon Brown on health and education, but would spend it better. I am sure he would. But not as well as freer citizens liberated by a smaller state. As Mr Maude pointed out last October, "it is always the soft option to accede to every apparently worthy spending lobby".

It is indeed soft, and warm, to sink into the sands of the centre. But when the sands shift, where does that leave you? Unnoticed in the wilderness. Which is where the Tories will be until they once again explain why, and how, the State could be smaller.

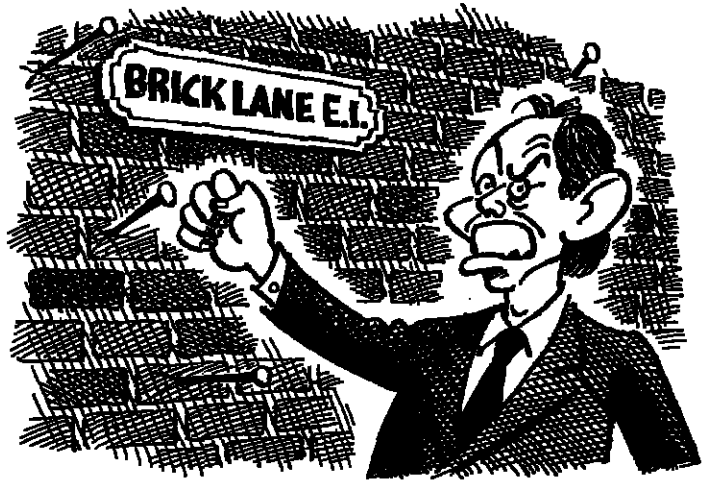
michael.gove@the-times.co.uk



Michael Gove



"ANY BOMBING CAMPAIGN..."



STIFFENING THE PUBLIC'S RESOLVE...



WILL SUCCEED ONLY IN...



TO RESIST THE... ER... BOMBERS."

Welcome or be damned

Britain's reluctance to accept more Kosovan refugees is shameful

Four weeks ago, in a rant against the Nato bombing, I wrote that when it ended — or if it didn't — we hawk nations would find ourselves with inescapable duties to Kosovan Albanians: protection, support, resettlement. I said that if we want to emerge from this fiasco with any honour at all, we will have to open our doors to the refugees whose doom we hastened, and smile as we do it. These are our people now, and we owe them.

"Come back to that theme," advised a drily mocking e-mail from Kent. "You'll need to. Have you read our local papers lately?" I looked up what she meant: the famous *Dover Express* tirade about Romanian Gypsies, under the heading *Scroungers Incorporated*: "We want to wash the gross down the drain... illegal immigrants, asylum-seekers... while Labour luvvies drive on, we are left with the backdraft of a nation's human sewage." My correspondent also directed me to the *Folkestone Herald* article alleging that "Slovak prostitutes sell their bodies for the price of a potato: 'The blouses are coming off as refugee 'potato patch dollies' are winning their own version of the war of the under-worlds."

Local newspapers do not print such things for fun: they know their readership and get a lot of letters. In parts of Kent, windows have been smashed and walls daubed with "We will burn you out". It would be nice to think that things will be different for Kosovan families escaping from a widely televised hell; it would be comfortable to believe that the smelters and daubers represent only a tiny minority of yobs and that better-educated Britain will be uniformly generous towards the Kosovans.

But I wouldn't lay any large bets on it. Among my flood of correspondence lately has come a trickle along the lines of this, from a very prosperous address: "You may moralise, Miss Purves, about our so-called 'duty' to refugees from this distant country whose people Nato is already trying bravely to help — but do we really want more of these women in headscarves, stretching out their begging hands? Are sentimentalists like you aware of how unpleasant it is to shop in Knightsbridge, with this constant importuning by greedy foreign gypsies with their bras?"

Altogether, it was a relief to see

and get them back to their homes as soon as possible. A Home Office spokesman smoothly says that mass evacuation would be "doing Milosevic's work for him". The failure so far of America — that vast, rich nation — to welcome one single refugee of its latest war is justified by the claim that it is too far away. "Our aim is to help them go home."

Yet they are not going home, not for ages. Even if the undead of breakthrough brings a peaceful new regime to Yugoslavia next week and miraculously converts the Serbian militia en masse to tolerance, much of Kosovo will not be fit to live in for years. The idea that it is sensible to keep hundreds of thousands of people trapped in mud, and squalor, and cold, and danger, and near-starvation just to avoid "doing Milosevic's work for him" is ridiculous. The party who arrived in Leeds had not eaten hot food or washed properly for a fortnight. The theory that this sad population must be kept physically close to its home is 50 years out of date. It is not as if they had to migrate by ocean liner: this is not the Highland Clearances or the Spanish Civil War. These people have already done the hard bit of the journey, trudging across the mountains. Three hours in an aeroplane seat would get them anywhere in Europe, and back again just as easily when (if) it is all over. A few more hours and they could be fed and comforted in Ohio or New England. If we can move bombs around to suit our "humanitarian" ideals, then we can damn well move some people around, too. The Macedonian Government begged us to weeks ago, as it tottered under the impact of an influx equivalent to one sixth of its population. "Don't send blankets," said its spokesman. "Send empty planes. Please. Fly them to Britain or America." It

really was not an unreasonable request. Yet our Government continues to behave with an ambiguity that it is taking me all my self-control not to link directly to a political fear of the xenophobic daubers and letter-writers. Despite the experience of Bosnia, it steadfastly refused the request from refugee organisations to keep temporary reception centres "mothballed" — as the Germans do — in case of such a crisis. It is four weeks into the war, but the two Leeds buildings now in use were found only on Friday. That does not suggest a commitment to compassion.

And what about the long term? Refugee organisations say that even though nearly all arrivals want to go home, it is necessary to behave as if they will not. After weeks in centres they need homes in the community, in "clusters" of families within easy reach of one another. Children must be found schools and adults taught English. "If they do go back, brilliant, that's a start in a foreign language. But they must not live in limbo," said a Refugee Council spokeswoman. Of the 2,500 Bosnian refugees to Britain, she continued, almost all expressed a wish to go home, and the Government spoke of "a couple of months". So far only 200 have returned. Their homes no longer exist.

This is the reality of the situation, and it is one that Nato nations must accept with grace, reflecting per- population must be kept physically close to its home is 50 years out of date. It is not as if they had to migrate by ocean liner: this is not the Highland Clearances or the Spanish Civil War. These people have already done the hard bit of the journey, trudging across the mountains. Three hours in an aeroplane seat would get them anywhere in Europe, and back again just as easily when (if) it is all over. A few more hours and they could be fed and comforted in Ohio or New England. If we can move bombs around to suit our "humanitarian" ideals, then we can damn well move some people around, too. The Macedonian Government begged us to weeks ago, as it tottered under the impact of an influx equivalent to one sixth of its population. "Don't send blankets," said its spokesman. "Send empty planes. Please. Fly them to Britain or America." It

comment@the-times.co.uk



Libby Purves

'It is Scotland that binds the whole Union together. If Scotland becomes independent, it should take Ulster with it'

Patrick West

The elections in Scotland are feared by many to signal the beginning of the end of the Union, ushering in a new, unhappy political age: Balkanised Britain. Yet the dissolution of Britain will not be as bad as people think. It will be worse, because of one factor alarmingly absent from the current debate: the future of Ulster.

The reason is stunningly obvious. For without a Union, one cannot be a Unionist: if the concept of Britishness has been abolished, one cannot be British. A loyalist? Loyal to whom? The end of the Union will leave a million people in Ulster bereft not only of a state, but of a nation; propelled into a kind of ethnic vacuum, a psychological no man's land.

So if Scotland does become independent, what will be done with Northern Ireland? There are four options.

A united Ireland would not be acceptable to Ulster Unionists and Dublin certainly would not relish the prospect of having to deal with a million volatile and unwilling new citizens of an enlarged Republic.

Alternatively, Northern Ireland might want to seek outright independence, an option mooted by William Craig's Vanguard movement in the 1970s. This has since gained little favour; shunned by a people whose attachment is to the Queen and everything British, not to a parochial Ulster statelet devoid of military protection from London.

Then again, Ulster could remain in a rump United Kingdom of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Such a preposterous political set-up would fail. It would founder on the rock of Ulster attitudes towards the English. It is participation in a

greater Britain, not an attenuated linkage with a little England which sustains Unionists. Ulster folk, Protestant and Catholic, regarding the English as ignorant, capricious and reluctant upholders of the Union. The English certainly have no understanding of Unionists, whom they caricature as violent, perverse, bowler-hatted interpreters of Britishness.

Ulster's affiliation to the UK rests upon Scotland's participation. Ulster's most Unionist party, Ian Paisley's DUP, begins its conference not with *Land of Hope and Glory* but *Scotland the Brave*. Indeed, it is Scotland that binds the whole Union together. Which is why a radical option should be mooted: if Scotland becomes independent, it should take Ulster with it.

For Ulster Protestants, "the mainland" — literally and psychologically — begins at Stranraer. Six out of seven Ulster Protestants claim to be the descendants of Scottish settlers of the 17th century. Indeed, anyone who has walked down Belfast's Shankill Road will have observed the Cross of St George noticeably absent on murals: the Cross of St Andrew dominates. The UVF and the UDA are said to raise around £100,000 a year in Scotland, while the Orange Order is formidable in Caledonia, boasting 1,000 lodges and a reputed 80,000 members. And if soccer be the litmus test of national identity today, it is interesting to note the prevalence of two particular football kits on the streets of Glasgow. Glasgow Rangers and Glasgow Celtic are

the Province's two biggest soccer teams. Most revealing of all, during last year's World Cup, most people in Ulster — both Catholic and Protestant — cheered on the Scots rather than the English team.

Yet the most compelling reason why Scotland should take Ulster with it stems from the increasingly accepted notion — popularised by *Braveheart* and Irvine Welsh's *Trainspotting* — that Scotland was "colonised" by the English and therefore should seek national liberation.

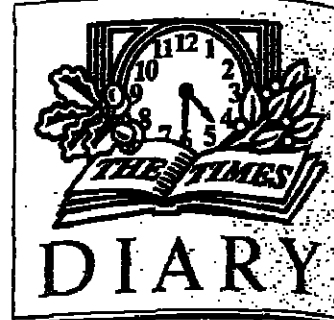
This is a convenient fiction. Scotland prior to the Union of 1707 was a backward and impoverished land, eager to join England's prosperous empire-building project.

Self-serving Scottish talk of English colonisation actually masks a more authentic form of subjugation that occurred 300 years ago, when Ulster was

overrun by thousands of Scottish settlers. Their sons still pay tribute to their ancestors, and their lost language of "Ulster-Scots". England never colonised Scotland. But Scotland did make a colony out of Ulster. So Scotland, when you go, take Ulster with you.

There may not be much chance of seeing an Ulster-Scots union, as there was in the 6th century when Dál Riata ruled a single kingdom that straddled the North Channel. Such a modest proposal would be derided as brushily simplistic. But brushy simplicities are what you end up dealing in once you resort to the discourse of "colonialism". The simple truth is that if the Union does collapse, in the name of "national liberation" then Ulster faces a future more brutish than any colonisation.

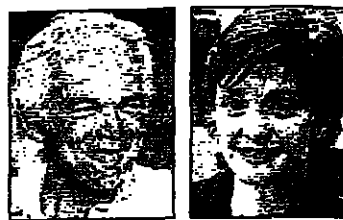
patrickwest@newsint.co.uk



Retail therapy

HAVING settled the future of the world's children with Hillary Clinton at the Nato jamboree, Cherie Blair got down to what is really important: shopping.

Our "First Lady" ventured to the fashionable Polo Ralph Lauren clothes emporium in George Town, Washington, on Saturday. With bodyguards (but minus Gaynor Cook), she whisked around, then loaded booty into three waiting cars. The FO is surprised. "There was a full programme for leaders and their wives. There was little free time." Well done, Cherie (pictured with her new mate, Ralph): she has crossed the final frontier for new Labour — polo.



"NOT" giving a sod" might be George Walden's take on Ken Clarke. But Paddy Ashdown has different memories. He shuffled in with Clarke to hear the Queen's Speech after the election. "The Tories would be mad not to elect you leader, Ken," said Paddy supportively. Shot back Ken: "Yes, but they are mad."

A BISHOP who branded opponents of women priests "miserable buggers" has really gone for it this time: the Bishop of Edinburgh is to publish a book with such challenging questions as "Was the Trojan horse gay?" In *Godless Morality*, the Right Rev Richard Holloway argues that God is no longer necessary for moral guidance and that sin is an outmoded notion. "He's just trying to shock," thunders George Austin, Archdeacon of York. "Take sin away and there is no point in him being a bishop. He's just a loose cannon."

SHOE fetishist Carla Powell is to offer her stilettos to the V&A, which is interested in mounting an exhibition of female power nudes: "People have houses crawling with books. I have shoes."

SELF-CONFIDENT children are invited to submit designs for the Diana, Princess of Wales memorial playground. The Royal Parks Agency seeks "expressions of interest" for its "innovative play environment" in Kensington. It hopes to "cater for a wide range of play types, eg. symbolic, socio-dramatic, social, creative, exploratory, fantasy, locomotor, mastery, object, role..." I could go on.

A YEAR 2000 bounty for wage slaves: the millennium bug has hit the Inland Revenue, with tax demands going out for 1900.



THE assassin blamed for putting down *One Man and His Dog* is said to be training her sights on *Late Review*, the arts kernel which houses Elaine Greer, Tony Parsons and my friend Mark Lawson. Timid sorts fear that Jane Root, the new Controller of BBC2, is about to end their misery.

"We think she sees us as old hat," I am told. "We have heard that she might call us for her 'fresh image'."

SAD sight: Peter Mandelson, minus ministerial car, pooling along in a tiny blue Fiat Punto.

BEST wishes to Henry "Blower" Blotfeld, who has been confined to a hospital ward after a triple bypass heart op. The 59-year-old cricket commentator, celebrating 25 years since he started at *Test Match Special* on the BBC, should be back in the box by the beginning of June for the Super Six.

My old chum Antony Worrall Thompson is off the hook in the great shrew invasion saga. He points out that he parted company with *Simpsons*, the proprietor of *Dell'Ugo*, more than two years ago. My butler Owen promises to step up his inquiries.

JASPER GERARD

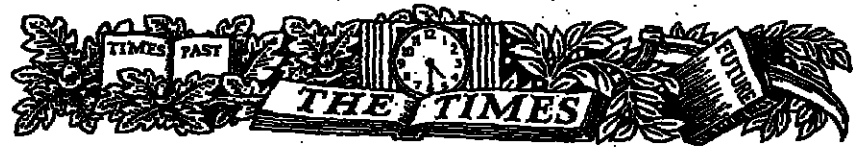
TROUBLED

FAIL WORSE

stures will not

LIFE IS A C

While of what you fa



TROUBLED WATERS

The wrong symbolic gesture from Nato and the EU

Nato's leaders left Washington more united as to aims, but still adrift as to means. Despite the best efforts of Tony Blair and Jacques Chirac, Bill Clinton continues to dither over the one decision that would impress Slobodan Milosevic and his generals, an order to mobilise Nato ground forces. The instruction to Nato commanders to revise their "assessment" of the options for ground troops sounds like, and is, disguised prevarication.

Whatever the impact of the intensified air campaign on which the Alliance is agreed, this delay makes no military sense. Even under the best scenario, withdrawal by Belgrade of "all" its forces from Kosovo, Nato will need a much larger and better-armed force than it now has ready to go, because it can take nothing on trust. If Belgrade does not yield, Nato will have to push it out of Kosovo, and that demands deployment well before Kosovo's early autumn snows come to the Serbs' defence. Instead of drawing satisfaction from yesterday's apparently "brave" testing of the Serb political waters by Vuk Draskovic, the Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister, therefore, the alert should be sounding in Nato headquarters. Nato is at risk of being caught humiliatingly unprepared, as Mr Milosevic will not have failed to note.

To this sin of omission, Nato leaders added one of commission — the utterly ill-judged proclamation of a naval blockade to prevent oil flowing into Serbia via the Montenegrin port of Bar on the Adriatic. Nothing Nato has done since March 24 throws more doubt on the quality of its strategic thinking. The EU and Nato oil embargo on both Serbia and Montenegro is itself a mistake; the most likely consequence will be to deliver Montenegro's democratic and bravely neutral Government into Belgrade's power. A naval blockade is unthinkable. It would be illegal under international law; its impact on the Serbian people of Kosovo would be marginal; and its political consequences would be little short of disastrous.

To stop a ship on the high seas is an act of war. That would be the legal implication of stopping, say, a Russian vessel. And Nato is pointing its guns at a phantom target.

There have been dark references to Russian oil shipments to Serbia. But Russia has shipped nothing through land pipelines since the start of the Nato bombing campaign, and only insignificant amounts by sea. By far the largest quantities, including 65,000 barrels in a single Texaco shipment from British refineries, have been of EU and Nato origin. The folly of this move is that the Russian Government will now come under domestic pressure to put Nato to the test.

The US was wrong to claim that a blockade is justified by UN Security Council Resolution 1160 of 1998, which bans exports to Yugoslavia of "arms and related materiel of all types". The UN's oil-related sanctions were specifically lifted in 1995, following the Dayton accords. Wiser than its political masters, Nato's military committee yesterday conceded as much, announcing that its "visit and search" regime would not involve the use of force to stop non-Nato or EU vessels. But Nato still intends to challenge "third nation" vessels, to judge by its claim that their shippers will stay away because "no one likes to be stopped at sea by a warship".

Before real damage ensues, this loose talk must stop. Nato and the EU must also exempt Montenegro from their ban. The oil embargo is, as its Government claims, "a real catastrophe" for this already war-damaged economy flooded with Kosovan refugees; it could destroy President Djukanovic and drag Montenegro into the war. His case for neutrality crucially depends, in a country where loyalties are divided, on keeping daily life as normal as possible. Of course there is a risk that some oil will reach the Yugoslav military, which gleefully used the excuse of Nato's blockade yesterday to order Montenegro to hand over its slender oil reserves. But set against Nato's claim to have destroyed 70 per cent of Yugoslav stocks as well as its two refineries, that seepage would be minimal. Other porous frontiers mean that Nato cannot squeeze every last drop of oil out of Serbia's supply lines. It should get back to concentrating on the central question: when, how and with what troops it is to prosecute the endgame against Belgrade.

FATE WORSE THAN DEBT

Simplistic gestures will not help developing nations

Where there is a pinnacle there is also a precipice. So, as expectations for a new millennium mount, it is unsurprising that a sense of disquiet should also stir. What excited gesture can the West make to mark this moment? How can optimism be maintained at a time when anticlimax looms? The millennium mood creates a market for the grand proposal, for the great achievement to which a nation can point for reassurance. At this turning-point of time, people are particularly susceptible to the simplistic scheme, to the madcap proposal which captivates public enthusiasm. The campaign propagated by the faith-based Jubilee 2000 movement to eradicate Third World debt may be well-intentioned, but it amounts to just such a senselessly impulsive gesture.

This is not to imply that the issue of debt relief can be dismissed as the dream of idealists. Quite rightly, a privileged West feels uneasy about the poverty trap in which it watches underdeveloped nations flail, helplessly trapped by histories of financial mismanagement and irresponsible handouts. This week, as representatives from the G7 economic powers — including the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, and the International Development Secretary Clare Short — gather in Washington, debt relief is deservedly occupying a prominent place in discussions.

But, as Ms Short noted in a welcome and tough-minded speech, the problems of the world's poorest countries cannot be solved by blanket cancellation of debt. Although initially such freedom would result in financial improvement, without accompanying development of sound economic policies it could only ever provide a

tantilisingly short-term sense of progress. Debt, after all, as any businessman knows, is not necessarily bad. Governments, like companies, must borrow to invest and expand economically. Unless a country can prove itself capable of paying competitive rates of interest on a loan, it is unlikely ever to find a willing creditor again.

Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) must continue to qualify, as they do now, for debt relief schemes. In acknowledgement of their efforts at reform, Uganda and Bolivia have had their financial burden eased. It would be poor reward for such nations should countries such as Sudan or the Democratic Republic of Congo be equally helped. Sudan may be among the world's most impoverished nations, yet its Government still chooses to spend most of its scant budget on arms. Congo is destroying itself in corruption and conflict. To forgive its debts at present would only result in yet more military spending and fatter overseas bank accounts in the names of a powerful minority.

The developing world demands measured wisdom from the West, not the grandiose gesture. It deserves respect, not patronising indulgence. Mr Brown has already outlined a plan to improve the situation of debt-burdened nations, including an increase in aid and the selling of International Monetary Fund gold to help to finance debt cuts. In answer to frequent accusations of irresponsible lending, he has committed Britain for two years to a policy whereby export credits will not be extended to HIPCs for non-productive expenditure. These solutions take time. The developing world's problems will take more than the stroke of a clock to solve.

LIFE IS A CABERNET

A little of what you fancy can do you good

Alcohol is apparently becoming the unexpected and fashionable health drink. While all brands of fresh orange juice and mineral water appear to have more or less the same sort of positive impact on health, regardless of which oranges have been squeezed, and from which well the water has sprung. The nutritional benefits of alcohol, in particular red wine, are the subject of a more advanced science. Red wine drinkers, well known as extremely sophisticated analysts, can now compare the invigorating qualities of specific grapes grown in different areas.

The news today that a French cardiologist claims that cabernet sauvignon from the Gironde is one of the most effective wines at keeping arteries clear is another example of the growing recognition that, in moderation, alcohol can be good for you.

A few weeks ago, Safeway, with the help of the University of Glasgow, revealed that its Chilean cabernet sauvignon (Lontue region) and merlot may also help you live longer. The secret ingredient in this case is flavonols, and the more of them the better. Flavonols are anti-oxidants which may keep heart disease and cancer at bay. The

University and the supermarket now have the flavonol ratings of no fewer than 65 red wines. So, flavonols may be about to be the next big thing for healthy enophiles.

Californians have gone a step further. Labels on some wine bottles encourage drinkers "to consult your family doctor about the health effects of wine consumption". Given the constraints of the NHS, it is unlikely that British GPs will find time to fully swot up on the flavonol and resveratrol ratings of the local off-licence's offerings.

Some sceptics might seek to dismiss these nutritional revelations as a marketing ploy by wine-producers and supermarkets. Or they might point out, correctly, that large quantities of alcohol are distinctly disturbing. But the recognition that wine can be good for you should be welcomed as a small corrective against the numerous health scares which overshadow the good things in life. Alcohol has spent years out in the cold as a condemned drink. It is now time to acknowledge that whisky can have anti-coagulant qualities, that white wine can guard against shellfish bacteria, and that a glass or two of cabernet a day may be just what the doctor orders.

حزبنا من العمل

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Tory commitment to public services

From Dr David Green

Sir, William Hague's attempt to earn the trust of the people in health and education ("The NHS is safer in our hands", April 23) is deeply confused. Free marketeers accept that the State should guarantee universal access to health and education; but they also point out that maintaining access for rich and poor does not require the Government to own and manage all the schools and hospitals.

In healthcare the consequence of putting a national cash limit on spending appears to have been the delay, dilution and denial of care, exemplified by the premature death of thousands of cancer sufferers, reported in the same issue of *The Times*.

In the heyday of Thatcherism the favourite remedy of free marketeers for state monopoly in education was the voucher, a system of finance that guaranteed all children the chance to go to a school chosen by their parents. In America vouchers are a reality. Publicly funded schemes have been established in Wisconsin and Ohio, with others planned, and privately funded voucher schemes are available in some 40 states.

New Labour has even made a small gesture in favour of competition and diversity by encouraging private management of some schools. Yet, just as the case for competition is gaining wider acceptance, Mr Hague seems to have decided to be more left-wing than Labour.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID GREEN
(Director, Health and Welfare Unit).
The Institute of Economic Affairs,
2 Lord North Street, SW1P 3LB,
April 26.

From Mr M. R. W. G. Banks

Sir, Well done, Peter Lilley, in helping to guide the Conservative Party towards renewing public confidence in our commitment to public services such as education, health and welfare. These issues, together with sound monetary policy and good defence, are the bedrock of Conservative beliefs.

William Hague is right. The battles of the 1980s have been won. We must now look to the challenges of the 21st century.

Up to 1992 I campaigned in my constituency on a personal commitment to improve public services and the local environment within the lifetime of a Parliament. The prospect of winning back more such seats is considerably aided by William Hague's commitment to fight against the euro, as well as reaffirming the Conservative commitment to public services.

Yours faithfully,
MATTHEW BANKS
(Conservative MP for Southport, 1992-97),
Gordon Castle, Fochabers,
Morayshire IV32 7PQ,
April 25.

From Mrs Christine Butler

Sir, As a lifelong Conservative supporter and former candidate, I am very distressed that I can no longer support the Conservative Party after Peter Lilley's meanly-mouthed betrayal. Surely a massive increase in public spending and taxes will alienate what few remaining supporters there are.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE BUTLER,
51 Cavendish Avenue,
Cambridge CB1 7UR,
April 26.

From Mr Tim Huth

Sir, I was pleased to learn that the Conservatives may shortly return to One Nation "Healthcare" policies. If so, I could be tempted back to that party after a 20-year sojourn with the SDP and Liberal Democrats.

Congratulations Peter Lilley. Like Clause Four, needs must prevail.

Yours faithfully,
TIM HUTH,
22 Bracklesham Road,
Hayling Island PO15 9SJ,
timhuth@clara.net
April 25.

High romance

From Mr Richard Green

Sir, It was my intention to propose on a high peak (letters, April 16, 17 and 23) to the Australian woman who is now my wife, during the three-week visit to the UK of her sprightly father in 1988.

I lost my nerve the first weekend atop Snowdon and was thwarted by adverse weather the following weekend at Ben Nevis.

Weather and nerve were overcome on the final weekend of his visit when I handed him the camera and asked him to take a photo of Kym and me at the top of Scafell Pike on St George's Day. I shouted "Now!", popped the question and the rest, as they say, is history.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD GREEN,
19 Eyebrook Road,
Bowdon, Cheshire WA14 3LH,
101572.3107@compuserve.com
April 23.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Nato strategy and stamina to succeed in Balkans

From Lieutenant-Colonel John Woodhouse (ret'd)

Sir, Nato targeted and hit the Serb TV station in Belgrade knowing it was on air and staffed by civilians. The deaths that resulted are surely not collateral damage but murder.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WOODHOUSE,
Higher Melcombe,
Melcombe Bingham,
Dorchester, Dorset DT2 7PB,
April 26.

From Mr S. Harry

Sir, I read with increasing disquiet the reports of what Nato considers a military target. The Geneva Conventions Act 1957 (amended 1995) of the UK specifically states that "civilians shall not be the object of attack" (sch 5, art 52.1) and also that "civilians shall enjoy protection unless they take a direct part in hostilities" (sch 6, art 13.3). The definition of a civilian can be simplified to persons not involved with either military or paramilitary groups. The targeting of a television broadcasting station, although arguably furthering Nato's objectives, was an intentional and premeditated attack on civilians.

I submit that this attack has breached the terms of the Geneva Conventions and puts the Nato forces on the same moral ground as the Serbian leadership they are fighting against.

Yours faithfully,
SAM HARRY,
106 Worting Road,
Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 8UB,
j.harry@btinternet.com
April 25.

From Professor Geoffrey Lee Williams

Sir, There has been an excess of gloomy talk in the media about Nato having suffered a strategic defeat over Kosovo, to some extent mirrored in the feeble articles written by Simon Jenkins and the defeatist prose of William Rees-Mogg "Keep out and stay out", April 19.

Why this urge to pass premature judgment on a complex military operation whose outcome has yet to be determined by events still unfolding? Is it driven by the strategic analysis of the likely outcome of the current conflict or by a palpable desire to appease

Smack of authority

From Mrs Cornelia Oddie

Sir, In his letter (April 19) Roger Singleton of Barnardo's claims that according to a recent MORI poll 73 per cent of those asked supported law reform to protect children from physical assault, but did not wish parents to be criminalised for giving "trivial smacks".

Children are already protected by law from violent abuse by parents and others. Further legislation being campaigned for by the "Children are unbeatable" alliance is intended to stop all physical punishment of children by law and will thus criminalise good, non-violent parents who judge that a smack (or threatened smack) on the hand, leg or bottom may be appropriate corrective punishment for specified misdemeanours.

Such proposed legislation not only diminishes the right of parents to judge how best to raise their children: more seriously still, it opens the way for state intervention into properly functioning families with the possible result that large numbers of children could be unjustly removed from their parents. The same reasonable-sounding arguments were used in Sweden, where there is no distinction in law between smacking and violent abuse, and parents may be imprisoned for a simple smack. The stated aim of Barnardo's in its booklet *Why speak out*

Community violence

From Mr John R. Parsons

Sir, In your issue of April 22, the first five pages are taken up predominantly with the story of two teenage boys shooting to death their fellow students in Colorado.

Subsequent coverage in the British media has been substantially concerned with a perceived malaise within American culture, with an emphasis on the perennial British obsession with guns.

On page 15 of the same issue appears the headline "Gang tortured mentally ill girl to death". This story concerns five young people who, allegedly, over a period of six days

Nut allergy

From Dr Julian P. W. Walter

Sir, Hopefully now, everyone who suffers from a serious nut allergy (report, April 21) will be supplied with, and accept their need to carry, adrenaline (intramuscular) injector pens for immediate use. Or preferably two, one for the handbag or pocket and one for the home or car. Cost to the NHS — approximately £25 each, for what is the lifesaving treatment of choice for acute anaphylaxis.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. W. WALTER,
Rapha House Surgery,
Stockcroft Road, Balcombe,
West Sussex RH17 6LQ.

Belgrade in the hope that Nato could agree to a Munich-style settlement with the mendacious Milosevic?

Surely the suspicion must be that the growing number of strategists have taken the easy way out in not having the stamina to stick with the brutal logic of applying graduated coercion on an adversary whose behaviour defies the standards and values by which Nato stands? Clearly, Nato has not yet suffered a strategic defeat and has at its disposal sufficient military means to prevent such a disastrous outcome.

Let us not heed the appeasers of Paris and Rome and refuse to listen to the lamentable intellectual heirs of Munich whose defeatism your elegantly expressed editorials have done so much to discredit.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY LEE WILLIAMS,
The Institute of Economic and Political Studies,
Insep Cambridge,
Warkworth House,
Warkworth Terrace,
Cambridge CB1 1EE,
April 26.

From Mr Gay W. K. Fenn-Smith

Sir, Serving on the staff of 3rd Infantry Division during the Suez Operation Musketeer, I saw many of the order, counter-order and disorder aspects of an "illegal war" and recognise many similarities between 1956 and 1999.

Your obituary today of Dame Kathleen Raven reminded us that 7,000 Londoners perished in one night during the Blitz. Churchill would probably have been lynched if he had suggested suing for peace in the aftermath of that dreadful experience.

As the aerial reduction of Serbia intensifies it seems more likely to me that our Prime Minister will be bracketed with Eden in the history books than that the Serbs will allow Milosevic to surrender.

Yours faithfully,
GAY W. K. FENN-SMITH,
153 Cambridge Street, SW1V 4QB,
April 21.

From Mr Derek B. Forrest

Sir, Our youngest son is a gunner in a Challenger with The King's Royal Hussars sitting in a wood on the Macedonian border (Glastonbury without the music, he calls it).

against smacking? would appear to be to equate them in this country.

Physical violence towards children is already illegal. Further legislation is aimed to outlaw trivial smacks and the MORI poll results show that most respondents are against this.

Yours faithfully,
CORNELIA ODDIE
(Deputy Director),
Family Education Trust,
322 Woodstock Road,
Oxford OX2 7NS,
April 19.

From Mr Michael Cavaghan-Pack

Sir, Like the Chief Executive of Barnardo's I, too, support "positive discipline for children", but have sufficient respect for my children not to waste my time giving them "trivial smacks". I would certainly support law reform to protect children, but if that means criminalising effective smacking or spanking, then my support, and I am sure that of many parents, seriously weakens.

To equate a soundly smacked child with a physical assault is gravely to trivialise child cruelty, and can only impede rather than advance the present campaign.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL CAVAGHAN-PACK,
The Manor House,
Thurloxton, Taunton TA2 8RH,
April 19.

Fit to read?

From Miss Susan Pease

Sir, There appears to have been a bad infestation by an elusive creature that eats newspaper, the evidence being a number of small, rectangular holes throughout *The Times*.

Would it not be a good idea to put all the useful offers for books, cassettes, CDs, etc. on one page? We then might be able to trap and identify this animal.

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN PEASE,
130 Goldhurst Terrace, NW6 3HR,
susan_pease_designs_ltd@compuserve.com
April 26.

He and his family have to accept that at times he will have to put his life at risk. We do, however, owe it to him to give him the best possible chance, not only of winning but also of staying alive. I am concerned that the reluctance of Nato politicians to commit themselves to what I regard as an inevitable land offensive is not doing this.

Even if we begin now it will be three to four months before sufficient forces and logistics can be assembled to ensure success. This brings us up to August and every day's delay brings us nearer to autumn with its poor visibility and short days.

My plea therefore is for the politicians to abandon the present "no land forces" mantra and get on with it. Unless, of course, the plan is to wait for next spring.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK FORREST,
Egremont, Wigan Road,
Leyland, Lancashire PR5 2SD,
April 23.

From His Honour David Pennant

Sir, It appears that we are not officially at war with Yugoslavia. It seems, too, that Mr Blair is saying that the bombing campaign will, regrettably but inevitably, cause civilian casualties. If somebody makes a formal charge of murder against the person who ordered the dropping of the bombs, what legal defence, if any, could be urged on his behalf?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PENNANT,
12 Elmrick Road,
Branksome Park, Poole BH13 6LG,
April 26.

From Mr Peter Tatton-Brown

Sir, Now is the time for Nato to be positive and produce an "Albright Plan" to help Montenegro, Macedonia and Albania out of their poverty by helping them to build schools, hospitals and roads and providing training.

Such action might help the Serbs accept a peaceful and honourable solution to their problems.

Yours faithfully,
PETER TATTON-BROWN,
Old Watercombe Farm,
Branscombe, Seaton,
East Devon EX12 3BT,
April 26.

Millennium denial

From Mr Gerry Hanson

Sir, Having reached the age where I no longer feel confident about buying green bananas, it would be arrogant to assume that I'll still be around to celebrate the millennium on the correct date in 20 months' time.

However, the celebrations of the misguided majority promise to provide a splendid party, too good to miss. So, when we have recovered from our hangovers, sensible people like Mr Michael Shaw (letter, April 22; see also letter, April 16), should simply greet their foolish friends with a "welcome to the last year of the 20th century".

Yours truly,
GERRY HANSON,
Potters Lodge, 74a Slough Road,
Iver Heath SL0 0DY,
April 22.

From Mr Ed Robinson

Sir, How are we to greet those who will not be celebrating the millennium on January 1 next? As it is likely that the following day will be little different from the one that preceded it, I suggest "Good morning".

Yours faithfully,
ED ROBINSON,
7 High Warden, Hexham,
Northumberland NE46 4SR.

Classical mix-up

From the Judge Advocate General

Sir, Joe Joseph ("Right and wrong", April 23) enjoins everyone to speed lawyers on their way into a Latin-free world with the reminder that Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone described his muntered Woolpack comments as *sotto voce*. Thus, writes Mr Joseph with a triumphant chortle, "Hailsham instinctively used the Latin phrase".

At least some of us now Latinless lawyers can tell Latin from Italian. Is it time to wrest journalists, too, away from foreign jargon?

Yours faithfully,
JAMES W. RANT,
Office of the Judge Advocate General,
22 Kingsway, WC2B 6LE,
April 23.

Beyond belief?

From Mr Colin Jones

Sir, You report (April 17) that God is said to have given worshippers' teeth gold fillings, and also that a businessman filmed his friends "having sex without their knowledge".

Are you implying that there is a connection between these two miracles?

Yours faithfully,
COLIN JONES,
Three Gables, Combs, High Peak,
Derbyshire SK23 9UU,
April 17.

Birthdays today

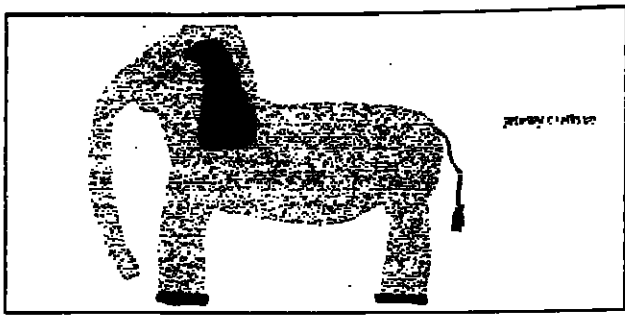
Professor John Barron, Master, St Peter's College, Oxford 65; Miss

Legal appointment

Miss Heather Carol Hallett, QC, has been appointed a Justice of the High Court, assigned to the Queen's Bench Division.

Artists join fight for wildlife

his daughter Mandy, and three Indian artists, from Ranibambhore National Park, including Mr Parashar. Celebrity supporters of the David Shepherd Conservation Foundation include Jeremy Clarkson, who contributed the charming elephant on the right. The auction hopes to raise at least £75,000 to help the fight against poachers and to protect habitation for some of the world's most endangered species.



Forces appointments

Scriabin, composer. Moscow, 1915; Ed Murrow, broadcaster. New York, 1965; Kwame Nkrumah, Prime Minister of Ghana 1957-60, Bucharest, 1972.

The London Zoological Gardens opened, Regents Park, 1828.

Britain recognised the state of Israel, 1950.

stonecraft; Godwin, pioneer of women's rights, London, 1759; Samuel Morse, painter and inventor of the telegraphic code bearing his name, New York, 1807-1872; Ulysses Grant, general, Cincinnati Union of Americans in American Civil War, 18th American President 1869-1877; Edward Whymper, mountaineer and wood engraver, London, 1840; Cecil Day-Lewis, poet, Laureate 1968-72, and as Nicholas Blake, poet, 1972-1972; John Galsworthy, Nobel Prize winner, London, 1867-1933; J. R. Lucas, 1968; Sylvia Stoll, 1970.

DEAF: Howard, deaf-blind, New York, 1812-1880; Thomas, the Deaf, 1856; Thomas Stothard, painter, London, 1834; Ralph Waldo Emerson, philosopher and poet, Concord, Massachusetts, 1802; Alexander Graham Bell, telephone, 1847-1922; Ed Murrow, broadcaster, New York, 1905; Kwame Nkrumah, Prime Minister of Ghana 1957-60, Bucharest, 1972.

The London Zoological Gardens opened Regent Park, 1828.

REIGNING PRINCE OF THE STATE OF Israel, 1970.

Calvud (Coventry): to be also Area Dean of Coventry East (same diocese).

The Rev Frances Tyler, Honorary Curate, Walsgrave St Mary, and Diocesan Adviser for Women's Ministry (Coventry): to be also Assistant Area Dean of Coventry East (same diocese).

Calvud (Coventry): to be also Area Dean of Coventry East (same diocese).

The Rev Frances Tyler, Honorary Curate, Walsgrave St Mary, and Diocesan Adviser for Women's Ministry (Coventry): to be also Assistant Area Dean of Coventry East (same diocese).

if desired to
George's Fund for
to James W
(Funeral
4 Green Lane,
London SE20 7JA.

To place
death notices,
acknowledgements
or notices please call
0171 680 6880

هكذا من الأصل



Vickers brings down Anelka, the PFA Young Player of the Year, to concede the penalty that set Arsenal on their way to a perfect six on Saturday. Photograph: Allsport

Anelka makes a striking impact at the Riverside

Every Saturday (and, these days, Sunday) evening, supporters gather at overcrowded motorway service stations and in draughty railway buffets to pore over the day's results, digest the consequences (often easier than digesting the food on offer) and work out how many places their team has risen or fallen. Fallen, more often than not.

The snatches of conversation overheard in such situations are the very stuff of football. "So if Bristol City don't win at Crewe on Tuesday, then that means..." but don't forget that Port Vale play Bury on the last day... "Oxford have played one game more than the others..." And then it's back on to the M1, or out on to the platform at Crewe. We've all been there and drunk the tea. Or tried to.

Entrants in *The Times Fantasy League*, however, can find out news that affects their teams in the comfort of their own homes. As the scores came in on television this weekend, Donald Henry, a resident of Leicestershire, noticed that a number of players in his Fantasy team, Haverock, had enjoyed good days, and yesterday he learned that he had won the weekly prize of £500 plus £100 worth of sports equipment.

Mr Henry, 44, a civil engineer, admits to being a supporter of "Nottingham Forest. I'm afraid", the only nearby top division team when he moved to the East Midlands,

although his true loyalties are to Aberdeen. Steve Stone, now with Aston Villa, and Carlton Palmer are the only Forest connections in his 40-point scorers, but there is a local connection: clean sheets against Liverpool and Coventry City meant that six points were contributed by Matt Elliott of Leicester City. "Another Scotsman," Mr Henry laughed. "It's funny

when he's interviewed. There's not much brogue there."

David Ginoia notched eight points, thanks to two goals and an assist. "Two goals in the last week, his only goals in the league. You get one bit of luck and it all comes your way," Mr Henry said.

The form of Nicolas Anelka was the best news of all: even though he was relegated to

the bench for Arsenal's 5-1 victory over Wimbledon last Monday, Anelka returned with a vengeance against Middlesbrough at the Riverside Stadium on Saturday.

He was fouled by Steve Overmars putting away the first goal, Marc Overmars putting away the penalty kick, he scored twice himself and gained a further assist. That's ten points to you, if you had the enigmatic young Frenchman in your team. His award of PFA Young Player of the Year on top of all this might persuade him that his future lies at Highbury rather than on the bench at the Nou Camp.

Other points-scorers in the Haverock team were Alan Wright (5), Mart Poom and Frank Leboeuf (3), Eyal Berkovic (2) and Steve Watson (1). Big Carlton and Darren Huckerby failed to trouble the scorers.

Even if your team cannot match Mr Henry's 40 points, you still have a chance to win a cash prize in the ON-Target competition. If your team total based on the player lists (right) is 11, 12 or 13, follow the instructions below and you could win £500.

For legal reasons, *The Times Fantasy League* is no longer able to accept entries from players under 18 years of age. Players 17 years and under already registered in the main and youth leagues will, however, be allowed to remain in the competition.



Defenders beware of goal hunters

This week, managers in *The Times Fantasy League* found the secret of how to penetrate the Arsenal defence. Wimbledon and Middlesbrough allowed the Gunners a five and six-goal start respectively before both teams hit back with a consolation. This would be considered meaningless in Premier League terms, but it is all so important in the world of Fantasy League.

The end of the season usually provides us with a feast of goals, mid-table sides choosing to play flowing football rather than paying full attention to keeping clean sheets. In fact, the highest-scoring weekend in Premier League history was on the last weekend of the 1992/93 season, when an amazing 53 goals in 11 games were scored. Defenders beware! The quest to become the top Fantasy League points scorer is

also reaching its climax. With Michael Owen unable to add to his existing tally of 18 goals, Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink, Andy Cole and Dwight Yorke are all hot on his heels.

With Francis Jeffers, his Everton strike partner, amassing 13 points in the same period, this duo represents the best possible Fantasy League strikeforce over the past month.

However, there is no doubt regarding the identity of the most in-form striker. Kevin Campbell's return to England has been marked with six goals and three assists in April for a mightily impressive 24 points.

Together with Nicolas Anelka's two goals and two assists against Middlesbrough, these two proved that they provide a significant threat up front for the Gunners, even without the presence of Dennis Bergkamp.

MATT SIMS

CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE

Columns show: code, name, club, weekly points, total points, valuation (m).

GOALKEEPERS	DEFENDERS	MIDFIELDERS	FORWARDS
111 F Ferraro	111 F Ferraro	111 F Ferraro	111 F Ferraro
112 G Goss	112 G Goss	112 G Goss	112 G Goss
113 H Hogg	113 H Hogg	113 H Hogg	113 H Hogg
114 J Jones	114 J Jones	114 J Jones	114 J Jones
115 K Keane	115 K Keane	115 K Keane	115 K Keane
116 L Lacey	116 L Lacey	116 L Lacey	116 L Lacey
117 M Marshall	117 M Marshall	117 M Marshall	117 M Marshall
118 N Newton	118 N Newton	118 N Newton	118 N Newton
119 O O'Brien	119 O O'Brien	119 O O'Brien	119 O O'Brien
120 P Pugh	120 P Pugh	120 P Pugh	120 P Pugh
121 Q Quinn	121 Q Quinn	121 Q Quinn	121 Q Quinn
122 R Reed	122 R Reed	122 R Reed	122 R Reed
123 S Smith	123 S Smith	123 S Smith	123 S Smith
124 T Taylor	124 T Taylor	124 T Taylor	124 T Taylor
125 U Underhill	125 U Underhill	125 U Underhill	125 U Underhill
126 V Vance	126 V Vance	126 V Vance	126 V Vance
127 W Webb	127 W Webb	127 W Webb	127 W Webb
128 X Xyng	128 X Xyng	128 X Xyng	128 X Xyng
129 Y Young	129 Y Young	129 Y Young	129 Y Young
130 Z Zola	130 Z Zola	130 Z Zola	130 Z Zola
131 A Adams	131 A Adams	131 A Adams	131 A Adams
132 B Barnes	132 B Barnes	132 B Barnes	132 B Barnes
133 C Collins	133 C Collins	133 C Collins	133 C Collins
134 D Davis	134 D Davis	134 D Davis	134 D Davis
135 E Evans	135 E Evans	135 E Evans	135 E Evans
136 F Fothergill	136 F Fothergill	136 F Fothergill	136 F Fothergill
137 G Goss	137 G Goss	137 G Goss	137 G Goss
138 H Hogg	138 H Hogg	138 H Hogg	138 H Hogg
139 I Ince	139 I Ince	139 I Ince	139 I Ince
140 J Jones	140 J Jones	140 J Jones	140 J Jones
141 K Keane	141 K Keane	141 K Keane	141 K Keane
142 L Lacey	142 L Lacey	142 L Lacey	142 L Lacey
143 M Marshall	143 M Marshall	143 M Marshall	143 M Marshall
144 N Newton	144 N Newton	144 N Newton	144 N Newton
145 O O'Brien	145 O O'Brien	145 O O'Brien	145 O O'Brien
146 P Pugh	146 P Pugh	146 P Pugh	146 P Pugh
147 Q Quinn	147 Q Quinn	147 Q Quinn	147 Q Quinn
148 R Reed	148 R Reed	148 R Reed	148 R Reed
149 S Smith	149 S Smith	149 S Smith	149 S Smith
150 T Taylor	150 T Taylor	150 T Taylor	150 T Taylor
151 U Underhill	151 U Underhill	151 U Underhill	151 U Underhill
152 V Vance	152 V Vance	152 V Vance	152 V Vance
153 W Webb	153 W Webb	153 W Webb	153 W Webb
154 X Xyng	154 X Xyng	154 X Xyng	154 X Xyng
155 Y Young	155 Y Young	155 Y Young	155 Y Young
156 Z Zola	156 Z Zola	156 Z Zola	156 Z Zola
157 A Adams	157 A Adams	157 A Adams	157 A Adams
158 B Barnes	158 B Barnes	158 B Barnes	158 B Barnes
159 C Collins	159 C Collins	159 C Collins	159 C Collins
160 D Davis	160 D Davis	160 D Davis	160 D Davis
161 E Evans	161 E Evans	161 E Evans	161 E Evans
162 F Fothergill	162 F Fothergill	162 F Fothergill	162 F Fothergill
163 G Goss	163 G Goss	163 G Goss	163 G Goss
164 H Hogg	164 H Hogg	164 H Hogg	164 H Hogg
165 I Ince	165 I Ince	165 I Ince	165 I Ince
166 J Jones	166 J Jones	166 J Jones	166 J Jones
167 K Keane	167 K Keane	167 K Keane	167 K Keane
168 L Lacey	168 L Lacey	168 L Lacey	168 L Lacey
169 M Marshall	169 M Marshall	169 M Marshall	169 M Marshall
170 N Newton	170 N Newton	170 N Newton	170 N Newton
171 O O'Brien	171 O O'Brien	171 O O'Brien	171 O O'Brien
172 P Pugh	172 P Pugh	172 P Pugh	172 P Pugh
173 Q Quinn	173 Q Quinn	173 Q Quinn	173 Q Quinn
174 R Reed	174 R Reed	174 R Reed	174 R Reed
175 S Smith	175 S Smith	175 S Smith	175 S Smith
176 T Taylor	176 T Taylor	176 T Taylor	176 T Taylor
177 U Underhill	177 U Underhill	177 U Underhill	177 U Underhill
178 V Vance	178 V Vance	178 V Vance	178 V Vance
179 W Webb	179 W Webb	179 W Webb	179 W Webb
180 X Xyng	180 X Xyng	180 X Xyng	180 X Xyng
181 Y Young	181 Y Young	181 Y Young	181 Y Young
182 Z Zola	182 Z Zola	182 Z Zola	182 Z Zola
183 A Adams	183 A Adams	183 A Adams	183 A Adams
184 B Barnes	184 B Barnes	184 B Barnes	184 B Barnes
185 C Collins	185 C Collins	185 C Collins	185 C Collins
186 D Davis	186 D Davis	186 D Davis	186 D Davis
187 E Evans	187 E Evans	187 E Evans	187 E Evans
188 F Fothergill	188 F Fothergill	188 F Fothergill	188 F Fothergill
189 G Goss	189 G Goss	189 G Goss	189 G Goss
190 H Hogg	190 H Hogg	190 H Hogg	190 H Hogg
191 I Ince	191 I Ince	191 I Ince	191 I Ince
192 J Jones	192 J Jones	192 J Jones	192 J Jones
193 K Keane	193 K Keane	193 K Keane	193 K Keane
194 L Lacey	194 L Lacey	194 L Lacey	194 L Lacey
195 M Marshall	195 M Marshall	195 M Marshall	195 M Marshall
196 N Newton	196 N Newton	196 N Newton	196 N Newton
197 O O'Brien	197 O O'Brien	197 O O'Brien	197 O O'Brien
198 P Pugh	198 P Pugh	198 P Pugh	198 P Pugh
199 Q Quinn	199 Q Quinn	199 Q Quinn	199 Q Quinn
200 R Reed	200 R Reed	200 R Reed	200 R Reed

FANTASY LEAGUE LEADERBOARD	YOUTH LEAGUE LEADERS
1 Nicholas Knightley	1 Matthew O'Neil
2 Mike Shipley	2 Robert Anderson
3 Phil Clarke	3 Tom Gammon
4 Mike Shipley	4 Stephen Bailey
5 James Kerr	5 Alexander Thackray-Norris
6 Matthew O'Brien	6 William Watson
7 Phil Taylor	7 Paul Williams
8 Brian Payne	8 Dominic McDonnell
9 Mark Coles	
10 Thomas Bailey	
11 Robert Little	
12 Sarah Darnall	
13 Phil Taylor	
14 Sarah Little	
15 David Mead	
16 Jennifer Coddern	
17 Paul O'Brien	
18 Darren Sawyer	
19 I. Samuels	
20 Robin Harrington	
21 David Wilson	
22 Michael Muller/Schulz	
23 David Young	
24 David Edmondson	
25 Phil Taylor	
26 Scott Brett	
27 Arthur Gault	
28 Alan Purdy	
29 Nathan Carroll	
30 Richard Deane	
31 Andrew Williams	
32 Terry Butler	
33 Simon Lunn	
34 Peter Leatham	
35 Gavin Smith	
36 Andrew Colver	
37 Simon Gray	
38 Jason Wynne	
39 Raymond George	
40 Neil Edwards	
41 Stephen Beales	
42 Rajiv Kothari	
43 Lucy O'Neill	
44 Phil Marshall	
45 John Miller	
46 Julian Pope	
47 Ron Allport	
48 Michael Scott	
49 Robert Anderson	
50 Paul Barnbridge	
51 Steve Ball	
52 Naomi Cartwright	
53 Tom Summers	
54 Tim Gardner	

Are you on target to win £500?

Congratulations to Mr T. Russell, of Southsea, the main winner of ON-Target from last week. Even if you do not have a Fantasy League team, you can enter this new game now - or enter a new one simply for ON-Target. All managers have the chance to win a share of £28,000 of new prizes. *The Times* has teamed up with EA Sports to offer you the chance to own the renowned FIFA 99 game. Every week you could win:

- 1st prize: £500 plus EA Sports Pack
- 4 runners-up: EA Sports Packs
- 10 additional runners-up: FIFA 99 CD-Rom.

Each EA Sports Pack contains: FIFA 99 for the PlayStation; FIFA 99 for the PC; EA Sports T-Shirt, keyring and mini football plus a record bag.

If you already have a team in the main game, you are ready to play ON-Target. Simply check your Fantasy League players' score each week and see if their total is the same as our ON-Target score. If you have scored the exact target points, a quick call to our ON-Target winners' line will put you in the draw to win one of the 15 prizes. You can enter at any time and there is no limit to how many teams you can enter.

THIS WEEK'S ON-TARGET SCORE

Has your team scored...

11, 12 or 13

points?

Check your total, then ring

0870 901 4270

(ex-UK +44 870 901 4270)

Calls charged at national rates

FANTASY LEAGUE SERVICES

Use these numbers for all the information you need:

CHECKLINE

To check your team's standing

0640 625 102

(ex-UK +44 870 901 4292)

TRANSFER LINE

To alter your team

0640 625 103

(ex-UK +44 870 901 4293)

0640 calls cost 60p per minute (ex-UK numbers charge at national rates)

FAXBACK

A comprehensive update sheet

0991 123 720

(ex-UK +44 870 901 4290)

SUPER LEAGUE FAXBACK

A brand new service

0991 123 721

(ex-UK +44 870 901 4279)

Faxbacks cost £1 per minute (ex-UK numbers charge at national rates)

HELPLINE

for any queries

01582 702720

All information provided by Fantasy League Ltd

Copyright © Fantasy League Ltd

Promoter: News International Ltd, PO Box 496, Virginia Street, London E1 3JY

What Cate did next

Arts, page 37

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY APRIL 27 1999

Carpetbaggers victorious as 62 per cent opt for conversion and possible £1,000

Bradford & Bingley members vote for windfalls

By SUSAN EMMETT

MORE than three million savers and borrowers with the Bradford & Bingley Building Society are set to receive windfalls of up to £1,000 each after 62 per cent of members who voted opted for conversion to a stock market quoted bank.

The result — the first time a society's board has been defeated on a motion to convert — raises questions over the future of other building societies. Nationwide, the UK's largest building society, which has already defeated two motions to convert, remained defiant yesterday. It said: "It is by no means inevitable that other societies will have to convert."

Graham Leftwich, a spokesman for Britannia, said: "The decision is disappointing, but it is simply a poll of Bradford & Bingley members. It has no bearing on Britannia's future."

Christopher Rodrigues, chief executive, and a vociferous supporter of mutualism, said after yesterday's annual meeting that he would not be stepping down. "When I joined Bradford & Bingley, I thought it had great potential," he said. "I still think it has great potential."

But Stephen Major, the Northern Ireland plumber who put forward the pro-conversion resolution, said he would be withdrawing completely as he had no interest in becoming a member of the board. After the result he said: "I played it low key and kept out of the limelight. I think that is what swayed it."

One spokesman for a smaller building society, however, conceded: "As much as I hate to admit it, this vote means that carpetbagging will be back with a vengeance. People



Screen test Lindsay Mackinlay, chairman of Bradford & Bingley Building Society, yesterday announcing his regret at the outcome of the vote

will be looking for the next target to go for."

Mr Rodrigues blamed the defeat on lower savings rates and said a considerable proportion of non-carpetbaggers had also voted for conversion.

Angela Carr, a saver living near Bingley who attended yesterday's meeting, said: "The interest rates are very, very poor. They don't stand up. It would take me years to get £500 for my savings."



Rodrigues: "great potential"



Major: out of the limelight

What next for the remaining mutuals?

By PAULA HAWKINS

THE decision by the Bradford & Bingley to convert to a quoted company will trigger a new wave of carpetbaggers seeking building society windfalls. But pickings are now slim, with most of the building societies now requiring new members to sign away windfall rights.

Yorkshire At the Yorkshire's AGM two weeks ago, 90 per cent of voting members supported mutualism. New members must sign away windfall rights.

Portsmouth The society, seen as the carpetbaggers' choice, has ended restrictions on opening accounts, but members have decided that any conversion plan will require a majority of 75

per cent of savers and more than half of borrowers.

Coventry: New accounts can be opened, but new members must sign away windfall rights.

Skipton: The minimum opening balance is £2,000 and may increase. The Skipton is probably too small for conversion, but is seen as a viable takeover target.

Leeds & Holbeck: New accounts accepted, but members must sign away windfall rights. The minimum investment starts at £1,000.

Derbyshire: Limits new accounts to local investors.

West Bromwich: Accounts can be opened with £1,000. There are no restrictions.

Business Today

Commentary: 29
A Cook's tour: 29
Stock Markets: 30
Telecoms deal boost: 30
Equity prices: 32
Unit trusts: 32



Better than expected
Anatole Kaletsky on economic surprises
Page 31

STOCK MARKET

FTSE 100	5008.5	(+75.8)
Yield	2.12%	
FTSE All Share	2002.72	(+28.09)
Nikkei	10618.51	(+4.74)
New York		
Dow Jones	10695.88	(+6.01)*
S&P Composite	1359.09	(+2.24)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	4 1/4%	(4 1/4%)
Long bond	5 3/4%	(5 3/4%)
Yield	5.65%	(5.65%)

LONDON MONEY

3-month interbank	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Libor long gilt	115.49	(115.80)
Libor (short)		

STERLING

New York		
£/\$	1.6117*	(1.6157)
London		
£/¥	1.6129	(1.6169)
£/DM	1.6312	(1.6309)
Yen	161.86	(163.05)
£/index	104.2	(104.2)

COMMODITIES

London		
Oil	1.0580*	(1.0620)
Silver	1.5710*	(1.5700)
Gold	115.10*	(115.20)
£ index	108.50	(108.3)

TOKYO CLOSE YEN 118.85

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (oil)	\$15.46	(\$15.70)
--------------------	---------	-----------

6000

London close	\$281.15	(\$283.45)
--------------	----------	------------

* denotes midday trading prices

Exchange rates — Page 28

G7 in turmoil over plans for financial crises

FROM ANATOLE KALETSKY IN WASHINGTON

SERIOUS differences yesterday emerged between leading industrial countries over plans to prevent crises in the world monetary system and to help developing countries to cope with the recent financial shocks.

Finance ministers and central bankers from the G7 countries yesterday expressed general satisfaction about the prospects for the world economy, but behind the scenes there were serious disagreements between America, the euro countries and Britain over detailed proposals to cope with emerging market financial crises.

Joseph Stiglitz, the World Bank's chief economist, gave warning that the true costs of the recent financial turmoil have not yet emerged.

Estimates of the number of people living in extreme poverty in Indonesia have more

than doubled over the past two years, while estimates of the number of people living in extreme poverty in the states of the former Soviet Union has risen from 14 million in 1989 to 147 million before the latest Russian financial crisis.

James Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank, also criticised the G7 for proclaiming apparently generous schemes for debt relief to poor developing countries, while failing to agree on how these schemes would be financed.

The problem of Europe's representation in the G7 after monetary union was again raised, with US officials maintaining that euroland countries cannot be represented at G7 meetings by their national central bankers and by the President of the European Central Bank.

Economic View, page 31

Brown hedges bets with MPC appointee

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE market-reading skills of international hedge funds are to be brought to bear on deciding Britain's interest rates.

Gordon Brown, currently re-ordering world finance in Washington, paused yesterday to appoint Sushil Wadhvani, London partner in a \$3 billion US hedge fund, as one of five independent members of the Bank of England's nine-strong rate-setting Monetary Policy Committee.

The opportunity comes because the committee is losing its first member, Sir Alan Budd, 61, former chief economic adviser at the Treasury, is to be Provost of The Queen's College, Oxford.

Dr Wadhvani, 39, swapped academic life at the London School of Economics, where he published more than a dozen papers on labour economics, first to be director of equity strategy at Goldman Sachs and for the past four years as

research director and partner in the Tudor Group.

Tudor is a US-based hedge fund operator founded by Paul Tudor Jones, a colourful environmentalist and friend of President Clinton, which manages about \$3 billion of wealthy clients' money. Dr



Wadhvani: successful

Wadhvani will cease to be a Tudor employee. At Goldman Sachs, Dr Wadhvani worked in the team led by Gavyn Davies, one of the architects of new Labour economics. But this probably has little to do with his selection.

Mr Davies said Dr Wadhvani spent 15 years developing big, quantitative valuation models to predict the course of bond, equity and currency prices. They helped him to win a 1995 investment strategy award from Institutional Investor. The magazine noted his successful prediction of falling bond prices in 1994.

He joins a coterie of present and past LSE academics on the MPC, including Mervyn King, Deputy Governor. He may be able to enlighten them on the niceties of earnings and on why sterling still keeps rising when they cut rates.

Commentary, page 29

CRS to cut 3,000 jobs as buying power is merged

By FRASER NELSON

MORE than 3,000 jobs are to go as part of a radical shake-up in the Co-operative Retail Society, which is to merge its buying power with the Co-operative Wholesale Society in a £4.5 billion deal.

Andy Meehan, CRS chief executive, has sold his ten Home-world furniture store buildings and 46 Living department stores for £149 million in cash. Every outlet is to be closed.

Kingfisher, the Woolworths to Comet retailer, is buying the Home-world buildings for £80.4 million. Miller Developments, a Scottish construction company, is paying £69 million for the "Living" department stores.

The deal will reduce the CRS to a chain of 469 grocery stores. Mr Meehan has pooled its £1.2 billion of buying power into the CRTG, a buying alliance organised by the CWS, which orders £3.3

billion of goods each year. The move will effectively create the fifth-largest force in British food retailing — with more buying power than William Morrison, Iceland or the recently merged Sainsbury and Marks & Spencer.

Mr Meehan, who joined the CRS five months ago with a brief to shake it up, has decided to ditch the "Co-operative" brand under which the CRS has been selling its own-label food for the past two years. It will instead use the traditional "Co-op" brand, produced by the CWS, which now runs 640 of its own stores.

Industry observers believe the decision to merge the food-buying and marketing departments could be the first step towards a full merger between the CRS and CWS.

Co-op conundrum, page 31

NET PROFITS

www.times-money.co.uk

Online move lifts shares in WH Smith

SHARES in WH Smith, which were 45p last summer, rose a further 38p to 778p yesterday as the high street retailer launched WHSmith Online, its new Internet division (Chris Ayres writes).

However, Richard Handover, chief executive, said that there were no plans to float it.

Many see the division as a response to Freeserve — the free Internet access business that Dixons launched last year and which has attracted 15 million account holders. Dixons is considering a £2.5 billion flotation of Freeserve.

WHSmith Online will offer free Internet access, and shopping facilities.

Stock market, page 30

Je ne regrette rien.

With sterling mortgages at European rates, nor do we.

4.99% (5.3% APR) fixed to 31/3/2002.

John Charcol.

JOHN CHARCOL

0800 71 81 91

www.johncharcol.co.uk

Talk about a better mortgage.

Based on a £50,000 repayment mortgage on a property valued at £67,000 repaid over 25 years. 300 gross monthly repayments of £296.34 at 4.99% (5.3% APR). Total amount payable gross £89,348.50 calculated to include solicitor's fees of £117.50, arrangement fee of £295, John Charcol reservation fee of £40, valuation fee of £155 and deeds/vacation/production fees of £100. The APR is 5.3% and is typical for a repayment loan over 25 years and assumes that on expiry of the fixed rate, the lender's Standard Variable Rate will remain at 4.99% (5.3% APR) for the remainder of the loan, in practice, this rate may differ from that assumed. After the fixed rate has expired, APR may vary. Mortgage secured on property. Insurance may be required. Lending subject to status, type and value of property. Limited funds available. John Charcol operates through branches and franchisees (who are Appointed Representatives) any of which you may be connected to on the above premises. John Charcol Ltd and The John Charcol Partnership Ltd have issued and approved this advertisement and are regulated by the Financial Services Authority. The PFA does not regulate mortgage business. Written quotations available on request. Credit broker fees of up to 1% of the amount borrowed may be charged. Rates correct at time of going to press. To maintain the quality of our service, calls to this number may be recorded for training and monitoring purposes. Head Office, 10-12 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DD. Tel: 0171 611 7000

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Nomura unrest clouded Park's departure

A WHISPERING campaign and a clampdown on bonuses at Nomura International were part of the volatile mix that led to last week's abrupt departure of Mungo Park, the Japanese bank's head of technology and healthcare.

Mr Park's enemies at Nomura, including Kevin Sara, head of technology, alleged that the bank was losing business because of Mr Park's controversial past. Mr Park was accused by the Serious Fraud Office of conspiring fraudulently to induce investments though he was formally acquitted

of the charges in 1993. Peter Mulier, a top salesman who left Nomura a year ago after a fierce disagreement with Mr Park, compiled a dossier on these and other allegations that was shown to Kozo Yamazoe, head of corporate finance, and the firm's compliance department. Mr Yamazoe was initially satisfied that Mr Park had fully disclosed his past problems when joining Nomura.

However, Mr Sara continued to press the issue, concerned that someone with Mr Park's reputation was running a team that embraced sales, trading, corporate finance and a £50 million proprietary investment book — raising complex compliance problems.

Tensions at Nomura were heightened by a clampdown on bonuses this year. Colleagues say Mr Sara was unhappy with his bonus, believed to be about £150,000 after tax.

The bonus clampdown, stemming from the Japanese parent company's £2 billion losses last year, is said to have prompted the recent departure of Nick Knight, the well-known strategist who is thought to have made about £15 million profit for the firm

last year. Nomura International, the London arm, also suffered a big loss, much of it on Russian bonds. Several of last year's technology issues have performed badly, notably Union Technology, an Italian computer company floated in France.

A Nomura spokeswoman said yesterday that Mr Park had been given a clean bill of health by the Securities and Futures Authority.

In a recent reorganisation at Nomura, Mr Park lost responsibility for the "BBFB" — the biotech bottom-fishing book, the portfolio of large holdings

in biotech companies that he initiated. Mr Park's departure has called into question Nomura's commitment to the biotechnology sector and to its stakes, of up to 25 per cent, in many loss-making biotech firms.

The BBFB is currently showing a profit of about £20 million on investments that cost some £35 million. One Nomura insider insisted that the bank remained committed to the BBFB, and would respond aggressively to any attempt to drive share prices lower.

PAUL DURMAN

FSA seizes assets of Manchester stockbroker

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

THE assets of a Manchester stockbroker who operated illegally and preyed on the city's Asian community have been seized by the Financial Services Authority.

On Friday the FSA won a High Court injunction enabling it to seize the assets of Shankernath Lukka, an unauthorised trader from Didsbury, Manchester, and make an immediate payment of £1.5 million to his investors.

This is the first time the City watchdog has been granted the power to seize the assets of an individual directly and demonstrates the gravity of the situation.

Granting the injunction Mr Justice Neuberger said it appeared that Mr Lukka, a South African-born Asian who also claimed to hold a Greek passport, had been "flagrantly and persistently dishonest".

Although apparently a Hindu by religion Mr Lukka is believed to have contacted most of his victims through Muslim temples in the Manchester area. Worshippers were encouraged to give Mr Lukka up to £200,000 on the back of high guaranteed returns which he claimed could be obtained on the stock market and foreign exchange. Upon receipt of their money Mr Lukka gave investors post-dated cheques that were supposed to represent their total returns. Only a few of these cheques have been successfully cashed.

Mr Lukka is believed to have put money from at least 30 groups of investors through a bank account set up in his name. The FSA's move means that investors should receive at least part of their money back. This is unusual as there is no established safety net for people who have given money to unauthorised investment companies. However, full compensation is unlikely as Mr Lukka's assets — believed to be mostly comprised of his house and car — are not expected to be worth more than £250,000. Mr Lukka was not present in court and his whereabouts are not known.

The FSA's investigation into Mr Lukka began last December after it completed an earlier case against an illegal deposit taker, Sahib Saini of Rochdale, Lancashire. Mr Saini had invested some of the money he had attracted from savers with Mr Lukka.

The latest scandal highlights the lack of apparent access that ethnic minorities have with established providers of financial services and will add fuel to the debate on financial exclusion.

Peps get farewell boost

PEP investors gave Britain's favourite take-away a rousing send-off, pumping £2.5 billion into personal equity plans in March alone, £1 billion more than the same month last year (Gavin Lumsden writes).

According to the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Autif), sales continued to surge into the first week of April — the last week Peps were available — adding £624 million to the influx. This took the total for the first quarter of 1999 to £4.1 billion, up from £2.9 billion in 1998's first quarter.

However, the total of Peps open rose only 6 per cent, to 12.2 million, last month. Autif said, indicating that activity was mainly by existing holders.

Most investors rejected investing abroad, and UK funds took £1.78 billion of March's figure, Autif said.



Don Cruickshank, who said that the Scottish dimension of his new job had interested him

Cruickshank to replace Macdonald at SMG

By RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

SCOTTISH MEDIA GROUP, the television and newspapers combine, has appointed the Government's chief millennium bug buster as its new chairman.

Don Cruickshank, the former director of OfTel, the telecommunications industry regulator, who currently heads the Government's Action 2000 campaign, will take over as SMG chairman in June.

Mr Cruickshank, who is also carrying out a review of Britain's retail banks for the

Government, replaces fellow Scot Lord Macdonald of Tradeston, the Scottish Industry Minister. Calum MacLeod, the acting chairman, resumes his role as deputy chairman of SMG.

SMG, the fourth-largest independent television company in Britain, holding the ITV franchises north of the border. Its interests also include The Herald newspaper in Glasgow. Mr Cruickshank, 56, said the "Scottish dimension" of his new job had interested him.

SMG, meanwhile, has launched a review of its interactive publishing activities with the likelihood that it will expand its Delphic Interactive subsidiary.

Delphic designs and maintains websites and its customers include Celtic Football Club. One of the options under consideration by SMG will be the launching of an ISP, or Internet service provider, business with partners.

Shares in SMG ticked up 1½p to 868p yesterday.

British business ignores the euro

By CARL MORTSHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

BRITISH businesses are largely ignoring the euro. A survey of transactions by firms outside of the banking sector in the first month of the new currency showed no evidence that sterling or the mighty dollar were being supplanted.

Only 1 per cent of all transactions conducted by the 403 firms surveyed by KPMG Consulting was conducted in euro during the 19 business days in January.

More encouraging for supporters of the new currency was evidence that the euro is making an impact in transactions between Britain and euroland member-states. The euro is capturing 16 per cent of the deals that would have been done in eurozone legacy currencies (the French franc, German mark and Italian lira).

However, in transactions between Britain and the rest of the world, the euro is only just appearing on radar screens, with a 1 per cent share of the deals, compared with 51 per cent of transactions conducted in sterling and 37 per cent in US dollars.

KPMG Consulting said it intends to publish its survey quarterly, incorporating its "eurocreeper index" that measures the growth of use in the currency. The score at the end of January was 16 per cent for displacement of legacy currencies, 1 per cent for total eurocreeper (euro share of all transactions) and nil for domestic eurocreeper (UK to UK transactions).

Leo Martin, senior economist at KPMG, commented: "Assuming nothing goes horribly wrong, we would expect the euro to move from 1 per cent overall to 6 per cent as it displaces legacy currencies. The interesting question is whether it begins to make inroads into the dollar and sterling."

Britain in Europe, the lobby group, said that UK plc had been quick to seize the opportunity to use the currency, pointing out that one sixth of UK-euroland transactions were in euros. It predicted: "Before too long, we may see the euro displacing some of the other currencies used in the UK."

Japanese motor production slips

JAPAN'S motor vehicle output for the year to March dipped below ten million units for the first time in 20 years. Annual output volume fell 7.5 per cent compared with the previous year, to 9.97 million units, its lowest since the year to March 1979 and the first annual fall for three years, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers' Association said yesterday. A spokeswoman for the association said: "The prolonged recession in Japan and the economic slump in Asia contributed to the drop."

Analysts said that the slide would put pressure on Japanese manufacturers to cut surplus production lines, worth more than three million units. The annual output of cars fell 3.7 per cent to 8.07 million units and that of trucks slumped 21.1 per cent to 1.94 million units.

Terranova open to bid

THE board of Terranova, the food group spun out of Hillsdown Holdings, suggested yesterday that it could be amenable to recommending a bid — if the price was right. Terranova yesterday told shareholders to reject the 125p a share hostile offer being made by Unigate, the dairy firm. Terranova's second defence document, published yesterday, reiterated its objection to the bid on grounds that at 125p — or £228.5 million for the group — it gave shareholders little or no premium for change of control.

Wensum advances

THE WENSUM COMPANY, the clothing manufacturer, reported pre-tax profits up 14 per cent to £1.54 million for the year to January 30. Turnover was £15.72 million, up from £14.56 million. Earnings per share were 14.24p, compared with 11.79p last time and the final dividend of 3.45p (3.425p) takes the total for the year to 5.1p (5p). Andrew Hughes, chairman, said that the current year has started well with "excellent" order books.

Strong growth at SBS

SBS GROUP, the AIM-listed IT staffing business, yesterday reported pre-tax profit up 138 per cent to £1.6 million for the six months to February 28. Turnover rose at a similar rate to £28.3 million on the back of two acquisitions during the period. Organic growth in turnover was 43 per cent. Earnings per share were 9.64p (4.82p) and the interim dividend is 1.5p per share (1p). John Davies, chairman, said: "We are still experiencing healthy demand for our services."

Halladale sells sites

HALLADALE GROUP, a property company based in Scotland, has sold a portfolio of nine retail investment properties to an unnamed overseas purchaser for £5.1 million. The properties, in town centres in England and Wales, are let to a variety of retail chains including Our Price and John Menzies. Current rental income is about £380,000 per year, giving a net yield of 7.06 per cent.

Chewits maker is sold

THE company that makes Chewits fruit chews is being sold for £390 million (£250 million). Chewits is currently owned by Leaf, which is controlled by Huhtamaki, the Finnish group. Leaf is being bought by CSM, the Dutch confectioner. The purchase price is 13 times Leaf's operating profits, but is less than its annual sales of £420 million. Leaf has its strongest market positions in Scandinavia and in medicated lozenges.

KCA wins Shell deal

KCA DRILLING, a subsidiary of Abbot, the oil services group, has been awarded a drilling contract worth £200 million for Shell's oilfields in the North Sea. Shell UK Exploration & Production said the five-year contract would cover all nine of its fixed-production platforms. Alasdair Locke, Abbot chairman, said the effect on revenues would be determined by the anticipated pick-up in activity levels in the industry.

EXCHANGE RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.58	2.41	Japan Yen	207.01	189.48
Austria Sch.	21.92	20.26	Malta	0.680	0.621
Belgium F.	84.54	59.58	Netherlands Gld.	3.542	3.247
Canada C.	2.52	2.24	New Zealand \$	3.09	2.88
Cyprus Cyp £	0.9225	0.8510	Norway Kr.	13.18	12.24
Denmark Kr.	11.89	11.00	Portugal Esc.	317.39	295.36
Egypt	5.71	5.10	S. Africa Rd.	10.42	9.40
Finland Mk.	8.80	8.85	Spain Ptas.	264.51	245.72
France F.	10.44	9.66	Sweden Kr.	14.38	13.23
Germany Dr.	3.188	2.889	Switzerland S.	2.590	2.372
Greece Dr.	322	453	Turkey Lira	649924	601124
Hong Kong \$	13.34	12.14	USA \$	1.721	1.578
India Rupee	130	110			
Indonesia	17559	12559			
Israel P.	1.2521	1.1631			
Italy Lira	6.93	6.27			
	3120	2763			

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

ASW plans to shed 400

NEARLY 400 steelworkers' jobs are to go as the loss-making ASW group begins a shake-out of a rival steelmaker that it bought in January (Christine Buckley writes).

ASW will close a bar mill at its Cardiff premises, with the loss of 230 jobs, and shut a furnace and rod mill at its site at Sheerness, Kent, with the loss of 160 jobs. The Sheerness jobs will go at the end of July, and

the curbs at Cardiff is to be at the end of September. Both sites are part of Co-Steel Sheerness, the steelmaker bought for £40 million by ASW.

Graham Mackenzie, ASW chief executive, said: "The rationalisation programme, whilst a radical move, is a positive step in the restructuring of ASW and is one aspect of the significant opportunities that are available in returning the company

to profitability." The cuts will cost ASW £15 million to implement. On top of that, the company is investing £4.7 million in the Cardiff business and £5 million at Sheerness.

ASW, which employs more than 1,750 people, last month said that its losses had deepened to £22 million last year, from £5.8 million. It blamed the poor steel market throughout the UK and northern Europe.

PPL considers US option

PPL THERAPEUTICS, the drug development company best known for cloning Dolly the sheep, may be forced to locate a £45 million production plant in the US because of the difficulty of obtaining finance in the UK (Paul Durman writes).

PPL said that it would prefer to have a new plant near its existing pilot facility at its Roslin headquarters, near

Edinburgh. However, Ron James, chief executive of PPL, fears that British banks would be reluctant to provide loan or lease finance on attractive terms.

He said: "It's difficult if you are a loss-making biotech company. In the US, they can point to biotech companies that are making profits. There are so many biotech companies in the US that, even if we

were to fail, another company could come along and occupy the plant."

PPL, which reported losses rising from £10.2 million to £14.2 million last year, needs a plant to process milk from genetically modified sheep to extract an enzyme that it hopes to use to treat cystic fibrosis. The company ended 1998 with cash and investments of about £25 million.

Defence projects to protect jobs

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of jobs in the defence industry were protected yesterday by the Government's decision to go it alone on a frigate building programme and also to proceed with a three-country air defence project.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that it was withdrawing from the troubled Horizon frigate programme, which it had been working on with France and Italy, in favour of its own initiative.

Defence analysts said that the decision would bring more work to the UK on the multi-billion-pound programme to replace Type 23 destroyers and that the work could start sooner.

The MoD is aiming to build 12 new vessels by 2007. Initially it had wanted a launch date of 2004 but talks between the three countries have been long and problematic, eventually

foundering on the allocation of work. The building of the frigates is unlikely to generate work for the Govan shipyard on the Clyde, which has been put up for sale by its Norwegian owner, Kvaerner, as the shipyards of VSEL are more suited to warship work.

The UK Government has, however, reached agreement with France and Italy to build together the Principle Anti-Air Missile System (PAAMS) defence system for the new generation of frigates.

Matra British Aerospace Dynamics, the Anglo/French joint venture, will be the main contractor on the UK variant of PAAMS, bringing work worth about £700 million to the UK. A spokesman for BAe said: "We look forward to working closely with the Ministry of Defence to produce the world's most advanced missile defence system."

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

Dear A-Word Limited

Company Number 2182411

هكذا من الأصل

Cook's tour of the great and good

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Not many new companies can enlist the help of a former President of the United States to do their public relations work for them but Global Crossing is one that can.

The business, which has just agreed to pay \$550 million for Cable & Wireless's Global Marine Division, is a company with connections. And in telecommunications, where commerce and politics tend to be intertwined, connections can be all important.

Global Crossing launched on the New York stock market last summer with its shares valued at \$19. An initial lack of enthusiasm saw them drift down as low as \$8, but yesterday they were up to almost \$57.

This will be cheering news for ex-President George Bush. Last year he did the company the favour of flying to Tokyo to explain what an excellent outfit it was. His reward came in the form of \$80,000 worth of shares. They are now worth more than \$15 million. Not a bad fee for a man hardly renowned for his oratory.

Mr Bush may now be volunteering to knock on a few more international doors for Global Crossing. But the company could probably call on the services of a raft of high-profile people to sing its praises.

The secret is in the identity of its co-chairman, Lod Cook. He was formerly the chairman of oil company Arco, recently swallowed into the giant BPAmoco

combine, and is a man whose gold-plated address book makes things happen. And not just in the United States, where his Republican allegiances have not precluded invitations to the Clinton White House.

Good works on a grand scale earned him an honorary KBE from Prince Charles. At Arco, he would host an annual dinner in London which top names from politics and industry would not miss. The last one, however, was no longer staged under the auspices of Arco: Global Crossing picked up the bill for the glittering evening. This was clearly a young company with grand ambitions.

They have not taken long to materialise. In February, the company enrolled AT&T's Bob Annunziata as chief executive and snapped up a US telecoms company, Frontier. Today, it is valued at \$23.3 billion.

This has made Mr Cook's stake of just over 1 per cent worth having. It has made Gary Winnick the fastest-ever billionaire, in the careful judgment of *Forbes* Magazine. Mr Winnick, a former associate of bond dealer Michael Milken at Drexel Burnham Lambert, is co-chairman,

with Mr Cook. His stake in Global Crossing is rather larger, however — 23.42 per cent.

While that is already worth enough to pay for a good few banquets at Claridges, Mr Winnick is looking for more. The deal with Cable & Wireless is a step on the way, but some of those who have enjoyed Lod Cook's hospitality over the years are wishing they had bought his shares a little sooner.

Rodriguez does swift pirouette

Converting the Bradford & Bingley from building society to bank will take at least a year. The conversion of Christopher Rodriguez had to be accomplished rather more speedily. Yesterday morning he was a vehement supporter of mutualism. By yesterday evening he was coming round to the idea that B&B plc might not be such a bad

thing. He could envisage being chief executive of such an entity without feeling that his principles were being compromised.

His members' principles were all too clear, however. They put more value on cash in the hand than the more amorphous benefits of mutualism. When interest rates are down to current levels, the slightly more generous attitudes of the mutuals amount to little in pounds and pence, certainly not enough to leave savers or borrowers convinced that mutualism is worth preserving. It was B&B members who pushed the society into the demutualisation vote and they were more in touch with the prevailing mood than was Mr Rodriguez.

But he is not the child of a brace of ballet dancers for nothing. Executing a swift pirouette, he is now devising plans for a demutualised B&B as a "customer-led plc".

As a big idea, this is not revolutionary. Financial services busi-

nesses have spouted more than the fountains at Versailles about the need to be customer-focused. In theory, they all believe that this must be the way to earn long-term profits.

Yet when it comes to putting this theory into practice, far too often they opt for short-term profits over long-term customer loyalty. Northern Rock provided the most glaring example when, having forsaken its mutual status, it proceeded to juggle its customers' funds into accounts that distinctly disadvantaged them. The subsequent slow climb down was an unedifying sight.

If Mr Rodriguez can ensure that B&B plc hangs on to some of the warm glow of mutualism in its relations with its customers, he may have a recipe for growing the business. Shareholders, however, do impose new disciplines, and while they, too, might claim to understand the virtues of being customer-led, they have a nasty tendency to be profit driven.

The carpetbagging mentality is not confined to members of building societies or motoring organisations: institutional investors have the same tendencies.

Once B&B is floated and they have their shares, a swift takeover is probably what they would most like to see.

It really can be all at the Co-op now

When Andrew Regan made his ill-fated attempt to take over the CWS, his reasoning was sound: this was a business that deserved to be broken up. The problem was in the execution. Now there are suggestions that a cash-packed United States venture capital organisation is ready to try to succeed where he failed, with a £2 billion bid.

But the signs are that the Co-op may at last be deciding on the sort of remedial action that might make it deserving of a future. A merger between the CWS and the CRS is the sensible way forward for what used so proudly to be known as "the movement" (and, yes, there are smaller co-operative societies that still thrive but

for the purposes of this argument, it is the CRS and the CWS that now constitute TGMCO — this great movement of ours.)

They have not yet agreed to a fully fledged get-together. Given the fiercely fought objections to that in the past, it would be too abrupt a change. But after effectively putting the buying departments into one, it cannot be too long before the selling sides of the organisations realise the good sense of a full-blooded merger.

Then the organisation would be well placed to fight for its place in the grocery business, competing alongside Sainsbury's, Asda, the likes of it. It may take a little while yet but the arcane structure of the Co-op probably means that even the most imaginative of US bidders will have to sit back and watch.

No token choice

UNDER the Government's new share-buying policy, the Bank of England has to advertise for directors. Yet the Chancellor's appointments to the MPC remain shrouded in the mists of patronage. That invites a cynical view that, having gathered a woman member and a euroland national, right-on Gordon Brown has added an ethnic Asian. Sushil Wadhvani's resume suggests, on the contrary that we are lucky a youngish family man has made so much money in hedge funds that he can afford to take the job.

GEC launches \$4.5bn bid for Internet business

By CARL MORTISHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

GEC has launched a takeover of Fore Systems, offering to pay \$4.5 billion (£2.8 billion) for the US company that specialises in the manufacture of Internet switching equipment.

Shares of the UK electronics group gained 29½p to 608½p, as the market welcomed evidence that GEC was putting flesh on the bones of its strategy to expand in telecoms.

GEC's offer, priced at 76 times the earnings of Fore Systems, also provided support yesterday for the recent surge in telecoms and Internet stocks.

Based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Fore Systems makes networking equipment for large companies, as well as telecom and Internet service providers. Its biggest product, the AX4000 switch, enables data to be transferred down telephone wires, and some 70 per cent of all Internet traffic is reckoned to pass through Fore Systems' products. The company's stock price has soared from \$13 per share over the past month because of takeover speculation.

GEC is bidding \$35 per share for the company, a premium of 43 per cent to Friday's closing price. Net of cash balances, the cost to GEC will be \$4.2 billion and Lord Simpson, chief executive, admitted that it was not cheap. "It is the price of the technology and an annual growth rate of 30 to 35 per cent," he explained.

"We will now be in a position to capture the benefits of the impact of the growth of Internet and other data traffic on the demand for communications equipment and systems."

The bid follows last month's

acquisition of Relec, a network products company, for \$2.1 billion. GEC is keen to ally its existing telecoms equipment business, largely based on voice communication, with data communication products in an attempt to compete in the same markets as Lucent, its main competitor.

Lord Simpson added: "Fore Systems give us a similar footprint in terms of technology but we have a long way to catch up in sales. Our job now is to drive the organic growth."

Fore Systems was set up just nine years ago. In the year to last March it had revenues of \$632 million and operating income before interest and tax of \$55.4 million.

Products include asynchronous transfer mode, Internet protocol, gigabit ethernet and firewall switches but the company is also known for having helped to create the special effects for the film *Babe*.

Fore Systems's clients include NASA, the US Government, the US Department of Defense, service providers such as AT&T, Bell Atlantic, Deutsche Telekom and large corporates, including Boeing, Ford, Microsoft, Shell and Unisys.

Tempus, page 30



Splashing out: Nick Irens, left, and Harm Tegelaars, of Cannons, which is poised to buy 20 clubs in an all-share deal

First Leisure poised for break-up

By DOMINIC WALSH

MICHAEL GRADE, the former Channel 4 boss, appears to have thrown in the towel in his bid to repeat his success in the leisure arena. First Leisure, where he has been chief executive since 1997, yesterday admitted it was in talks to demerge its health and fitness business and sell it to Cannons Group in what appears to be the first stage of a break-up of the group.

First Leisure issued a statement confirm-

ing that it was a discussing an all-share merger between Cannons and its own health and fitness business. It said: "Such a merger would be effected through a separation of First Leisure's health and fitness business, and by Cannons issuing shares directly to First Leisure's shareholders."

Cannons, which is headed by Nick Irens, chairman, and Harm Tegelaars, chief executive, is effectively acquiring a business which operates 20 clubs, mainly under the Riverside and Esporta brands.

Neither company would elaborate, emphasising that the talks had "not yet reached a conclusion", although analysts believe it could double Cannons in size to between £500 million and £600 million.

First Leisure, which also operates bars, nightclubs and bowling centres, fuelled speculation of an eventual break-up by saying it continued to explore "other strategic initiatives for the rest of the group".

Tempus, page 30

Price rises ahoy, says P&O Stena Line

P&O Stena Line, the ferry operator, yesterday forecast further strong price rises on the back of reduced competition in the cross-Channel transport.

The company said that despite sharp rises in the past year, prices for passenger and freight transport were significantly lower than five years ago. This was when Eurotunnel entered the market, leading to substantial excess capacity and a heavy price slump.

However, the creation in March last year of P&O Stena, 60 per cent owned by P&O and 40 per cent by Stena, the Swedish ferry group, cut competition on two routes. Analysts believe that prices have risen by at least 15 per cent for freight and 20 per cent for passengers in the past year.

The joint venture said yesterday that it had made a headline profit of £3.5 million in the three months to March. However, it had also incurred a £10.4 million charge on closing its loss-making Newhaven/Dieppe route on January 31.

Rate cuts aid Boot

Henry Boot, the construction group, said reservations for its property developments have been "significantly buoyed" by interest rate cuts and lower inflation, but orders for houses in its construction division are down as a result of competition and a drop in public sector contracts because of more governmental emphasis on Private Finance Initiative schemes.

Boot's 1998 pre-tax profits rose 5 per cent, to £10.6 million, on turnover up 6 per cent, to £172.1 million. Earnings per share rose 7 per cent to 29.1p. A 6.6p final dividend makes 9.1p, up 7 per cent.

BATM soars

BATM, the Israeli telecoms equipment maker, said a "multinational corporation" had signed a "non-binding letter of intent" to buy up to 9.9 per cent of it. Speculation that BATM may be bought by Cisco Systems, 3M or IBM lifted its shares 12 per cent to 585p, against 145p last year. Pre-tax profits more than doubled last year, to £2.25 million, on sales of £11.2 million, up 71 per cent. There is a 31.2p final dividend.

Tempus, page 30

NET PROFITS

www.times-money.co.uk

Merging holiday firms' chiefs to share millions

By DOMINIC WALSH

DIRECTORS of First Choice Holidays and Kuoni of Switzerland are to share several million pounds after the two companies announced a slimmer and completely reshaped board ahead of their planned merger.

The board of the enlarged Kuoni Holdings was to have been led by Ian Clubb, of First Choice, as executive chairman and Riccardo Gullotti, of the Swiss group, as chief executive. However, the two men have now agreed to step down to non-executive status and Peter Long, First Choice's managing director, will become chief executive.

Mr Gullotti, whose contract with Kuoni has already been terminated, will receive a total of £4.56 million in compensation, including £247,000 in pension contributions. Mr Clubb, meanwhile, will pocket compen-



Gullotti: gets £4.56 million

sation worth £543,000, equivalent to one year's salary, bonus and pension contributions. He will also be paid £150,000 a year for two years for his services as a non-executive director.

When the merger was announced last month the board was to have had nine execu-

tives and five non-executives. The reshaped board unveiled in the formal merger document posted to shareholders yesterday has just six executives and four non-executives.

Peter Dietheims, head of Kuoni UK, is to continue in his British role, but will not now join the board. He has already received £4 million to buy him out of a profit share scheme. Three other Kuoni executives will each receive £730,000 for agreeing to waive their rights to compensation under a change of control clause.

Mr Clubb said a 14-strong board would have been too unwieldy. He said that he and Mr Gullotti had planned to step down after two years, with Mr Long due to succeed Mr Gullotti: "We decided it would be better to do it now."

The merger document puts the total cost of the merger at £25 million.

Takeover failure hits Jarvis

By DOMINIC WALSH

SHARES of Jarvis Hotels fell by 20p to 139p yesterday after the group announced that takeover talks with an unnamed party — widely believed to have been NH Hotels of Spain — have been terminated (Dominic Walsh writes).

Analysts believe that the three-star operator is still seeking a buyer. There were also suggestions that if its share price remains depressed, the management might seek to take the company private. Since flotation in 1996 the shares have rarely reached anywhere near its 175p launch price.

Sources close to Jarvis emphasised that the discussions with NH had been highly tentative, and had never progressed as far as due diligence.

JCDecaux adds to ads empire

By RAYMOND SNOODY, MEDIA EDITOR

JCDECAUX, the privately owned French group, yesterday claimed to have become the world's largest owner of "out of home" advertising after the £652 million acquisition of Havas Communications Outdoor Advertising.

Jean-Francois Decaux, chief executive of the company founded by his father in 1964, said yesterday the deal meant that JCDecaux now has more than 350,000 advertising structures in 31 countries.

Until now the group has been founded almost entirely on providing bus shelters for local authorities in return for the advertising space. The acquisition of the Havas outdoor advertising group which includes Mills & Allen in the UK, will add conventional outdoor billboards as well as advertising on buses and in airports.

The acquisition, hotly contested by Clear Channel and OSI of the US, will give JCDecaux annual revenues of about £800 million.

M Decaux said the company also hoped to float in London and New York through an initial public offering in the next couple of years. The company may also expand into mainstream media. "We will be looking at radio and, or, television," M Decaux said.

The media world is taking outdoor advertising more seriously as the fragmentation of television audiences and the rise of the Internet makes it more difficult to reach homes. Separately, reports that Carlton is about to buy Maiden the UK outdoor advertising operator were denied by both companies. Maiden's shares finished the day 26½p stronger at 404p.

MAKE YOUR COMMUNICATIONS MORE EFFICIENT, GET OFF THE PHONE.

There are plenty of other uses for the telephone line. With electronic communications you can save time and money on long distance phone calls, faxes and couriers. It can do so much more for your company. Microsoft can provide you with a small business solution that's designed to make your life easier. See your Microsoft supplier or visit www.microsoft.com/uk/yearbusiness/ or get back on the phone and call 0345 00 1000 ext. 201.

Solutions for Small Business

Where do you want to go today? **Microsoft**

Microsoft and the Microsoft logo, "Where do you want to go today?" are all registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the US and/or other countries.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Telecom deals boost confidence in FTSE

IT IS not often that London is able to ignore the strong influences across the pond on Wall Street. But that is exactly what happened yesterday as investors got the week off to a flying start in the City fuelled by a welter of corporate deals in the telecoms sector.

The FTSE 100 index finished 75.6 up at 6,503.6, having briefly touched a high for the day of 6,521.9.

Gains among second-liners were less spectacular with the FTSE 250 index rising just 4.1 at 5,788.6, as total turnover reached 972 million shares.

By contrast, the Dow Jones industrial average had reversed an opening gain of almost 40 points by the time business in the Square Mile drew to a close.

WH Smith, where Richard Handover is chief executive, was a strong market, adding 38p to 778p ahead of results on Thursday as the group announced details of the launch today of its Internet service, BT Alex Brown, the broker, forecasts a drop in interim pre-tax profits from £128 million to £89 million.

Marks & Spencer came back 6p to 448p with dealers expressing scepticism about recent reports that Warren Buffett, the financier, had built up a 3 per cent stake in 200 shares.

over International 4 1/2p at 119 1/2p, Stakis 7p at 175p and Jysk 2 1/2p at 57p.

Talk of a possible bid lifted Maidenhead 2 1/2p to 404p. Word is Carlton Communications, up 3p at 630p, is poised to make an offer valuing the outdoor advertising business at £170 million. Shares in Maiden are tightly held with Ron Zeghibe, chief executive.

Mark & Spencer came back 6p to 448p with dealers expressing scepticism about recent reports that Warren Buffett, the financier, had built up a 3 per cent stake in 200 shares.



Richard Handover, with Estelle Morris, Schools Minister, saw WH Smith shares rise, ahead of the online launch.

ver International 4 1/2p at 119 1/2p, Stakis 7p at 175p and Jysk 2 1/2p at 57p.

Talk of a possible bid lifted Maidenhead 2 1/2p to 404p. Word is Carlton Communications, up 3p at 630p, is poised to make an offer valuing the outdoor advertising business at £170 million. Shares in Maiden are tightly held with Ron Zeghibe, chief executive.

Mark & Spencer came back 6p to 448p with dealers expressing scepticism about recent reports that Warren Buffett, the financier, had built up a 3 per cent stake in 200 shares.

over International 4 1/2p at 119 1/2p, Stakis 7p at 175p and Jysk 2 1/2p at 57p.

Talk of a possible bid lifted Maidenhead 2 1/2p to 404p. Word is Carlton Communications, up 3p at 630p, is poised to make an offer valuing the outdoor advertising business at £170 million. Shares in Maiden are tightly held with Ron Zeghibe, chief executive.

Mark & Spencer came back 6p to 448p with dealers expressing scepticism about recent reports that Warren Buffett, the financier, had built up a 3 per cent stake in 200 shares.

for, the speculators are keeping a close eye on Independent Insurance, 2p easier at 23p. The price recently touched 30 1/2p on the back of results but has begun to drift back again on the absence of any fresh developments. Brokers will not doubt be paying close attention to the comments of Michael Bright, chief executive, at Thursday's annual meeting.

Speculative buying was good for a rise of 20p to 56 1/2p in Workspace. Rival Birkby recently bought a 20 per cent stake and could be poised to make a full bid for the property specialist.

It was the first day of dealings on Olex for NetBet (UK), the Alderney-quoted online betting service after a placing at 70p by Daniel Stewart, the issuing house. The price ended at 172 1/2p, a premium of 10 1/2p.

Arriva remained in reverse, falling 28 1/2p to 386 1/2p after Friday's surprise profits warning. The bus and train operator admitted that passenger numbers were down 2 per cent year-on-year.

Desire Petroleum enjoyed one of the best moves of the day, climbing 10 1/2p, to 26 1/2p, said to be on the lookout for suitable acquisitions. Elsewhere in the insurance sector,

Stylo stood out with a rise of 3p to 42p as Michael Ziff, chief executive, picked up 25,000 shares at 39p, taking his total holding to 4.452 million shares or 7.47 per cent.

Abbot Group celebrated clinching a £200 million, five-year drilling contract with Shell by adding 14p to 153p.

United Overseas firmed 2p to 22p after Terry Balkham, finance director, bought 470,000 shares at 21p. He now holds 480,000 shares, or less than 1 per cent.

GIIT-EDGED: Traders were keeping a wary eye on sterling ahead of this week's G7 summit with investors taking a low-key approach. As a result prices were left to drift lower in this trading although selling pressure proved light.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt closed 4 1/2p down at £116.48, while among conventional issues Treasury 9 per cent 2008 finished 4 1/2p off at £132.68.

NEW YORK: Shares were steady in morning trade with investors continuing the return to technology issues. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 6.01 at 10,695.68.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	10695.68 (+6.01)
S&P Composite	1359.00 (+2.24)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	16918.51 (+7.70)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	13127.02 (+221.72)
Amsterdam:	
AEX index	565.78 (+4.58)
Sydney:	
ASX 200	3128.7 (+8.0)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	5266.22 (+60.80)
Singapore:	
SEAC	1869.82 (+4.34)
Brussels:	
BE20	3244.07 (+11.32)
Paris:	
CAC-40	4284.40 (+21.97)
Zurich:	
SMI index	7254.1 (+108.9)
London:	
FT 100	6503.6 (+75.6)
FTSE 100	6503.6 (+75.6)
FTSE 250	5788.6 (+41.1)
FTSE 350	5101.1 (+30.8)
FTSE Europe 100	3014.67 (+30.6)
FTSE All-Share	3002.72 (+29.0)
FTSE Non-Financials	3006.05 (+27.8)
FTSE Financials	154.71 (+2.2)
FTSE Govt Secs	110.79 (-0.26)
Bargains	78181
SEAO Volume	971.4m
US\$	1.6281 (-0.0041)
£/¥	0.6373 (+0.0007)
£/A\$	1.1937
Exchange Index	104.2 (Same)
Bank on England official base rate	4.75
1991-1992 Mkt (2.7%) Jan 1997-100	
1993-1994 Mkt (2.7%) Jan 1997-100	

REPORT ISSUES

Atkins International	143
BT Smaller Cos VCT (100)	95
BT Smaller Cos VCT Wts	12
Calsonic Euro Restruct	112
Calsonic Restruct Wts	25
Edinburgh Val Zed Dr Pl	108
Flamingo 1 & 6 Units 2006	648
Gartmore High Income	110
Gartmore Zed Dr Pl	109
Halifax Non Cum Pl	100
Northern 2 VCT	100
Sherry Fitzgerald	147
Sports Internet	196
Triven VCT	100
Voyager 2000	8

RIGHTS ISSUES

Calsonic n/p (125)	2
Enxos International n/p (RSP) 2	
Mice Group n/p (80)	19
Veratone n/p (05)	1

MAJOR CHANGES

Company	Close	Chng	Chng%
DO Ind	102	+11	+12.0
Dunelm	122	+12	+10.8
Burtoned Bw	182	+17	+10.2
Abbot Group	153	+14	+10.0
SBS	172	+17	+9.8
Goldshield	380	+30	+8.7
Shield Disp	452	+35	+8.3
Malden	404	+30	+8.1
Calsonic	770	+57	+8.0
Fitnes First	530	+39	+7.9
Chiroscience	221	+15	+7.2
Alcon	222	+15	+7.2
Stigdon Pharma	212	+15	+7.2
Appo	189	+12	+6.7
Hanson	821	+35	+5.9
Smith WH	104	+3	+3.3
TeleWest	297	+14	+5.1
GEC	608	+29	+5.0
Comline	262	+12	+5.0

FALLS

Stock	Close	Chng	Chng%
S Hotels	139	-20	-12.5
Black Arrow	93	-12	-11.3
JLB Sports	388	-29	-8.0
REXAM	238	-15	-5.9
Glenamanga A	540	-32	-5.6

TEMPUS

Forward with new GEC

WHICH would you rather buy? A share in an Internet service provider or an Internet equipment maker? Judging by the price GEC is paying for Fore Systems of the US, there is almost as much capital growth hope in the latter as there is in the former. GEC is paying a 43 per cent premium to buy Fore — and this comes against a backdrop that saw Fore shares almost double in value over the past month as speculation mounted that it would become subject of a bid.

GEC is certainly paying an exorbitant price — the sales multiple is 6.6 times and the multiple to earnings for the year to March 1999 is 76 times. But this is the going rate. In reality, GEC has little choice but to pay up if it wants to play in the big league in a market that includes companies such as Northern Telecom and Ericsson. It has advertised itself as cash

rich and a keen buyer. In addition, vendors in its new areas of operation are few and can name their price. Lucent, GEC's main rival in its new-found guise as a telecoms equipment manufacturer, paid 13 times sales for Ascend, a similar company to Fore Systems. Shares in BATM Advanced Communications, discussed in more detail below, also trade at 80 odd times earnings.

For GEC's, and their investors', point of view, consolation comes because for an Internet-related story Fore's markets have a comforting connection with reality. Fore even generates a profit. That may be only \$55 million on \$632 million of sales, but Fore is growing at a spectacular rate. Sales were up 35 per cent last year. These are tangible products with tangible profit potential. Buy into equipment makers, not service providers. Buy new GEC.

BATM

BATM Advanced Communications is much like Fore, the US company bought yesterday by GEC, although it operates on a much smaller scale. BATM manufactures switching devices that shift information quickly and efficiently around the Internet.

BATM may also follow Fore into the hands of a bidder. Yesterday BATM admitted that "a multinational corporation" had agreed to take a 4.5 per cent stake in the company with the option of increasing this stake to 9.9 per cent in the future. The buyer is likely to be either Cisco or 3M, or even IBM, which supplies many of BATM's products alongside its own.

BATM, meanwhile, reported impressive annual results and the shares added 12 per cent to close at 585p to trade at an astonishing 82 times earnings.

Biotechs

THE biotechnology sector seems to have shrugged off the departure of Mungo Park from Nomura International. Mr Park established what was known as the biotech bottom-fishing book, or BBFB. The bank acquired large stakes in eight or nine companies, and is believed to have smaller holdings in many more. It pitted Nomura's judgment on smaller biotech shares against the market's.

The approach also produced some spectacular successes. Phytopharm, bought for less than 45p in late 1997, is now at 241p; Xenova, backed at 55p last autumn, is now at 106p. The fear is Mr Park's exit will turn Nomura from biotech bull to biotech bear. After all, cynics say, taking a 10 per cent stake in a weak company is an expensive and risky way of attracting corporate advisory business. Nomura insists, as it would, that it remains committed to

the emerging healthcare sector and that BBFB has the funds to take on short-sellers. Time will tell. But despite the fact that the market has taken Mr Park's departure in its stride, investors need to look at the smaller players with renewed caution.

Meanwhile, the bigger companies, where Nomura's influence is much less important, look increasingly solid. Celltech and Chiroscience show particular promise.

First Leisure

EGO-MASSAGING semantics aside, Cannons is acquiring the fitness business of First Leisure. First Leisure also says it continues to investigate "strategic initiatives" for its two other businesses: bars and nightclubs, and tennis and bowling.

Whilst this could mean that it hopes to enlarge these businesses through acquisitions, it is more likely that a full-scale break-up of First

Leisure is now in the offing. And who would have thought that two years ago when Michael Grade, with an enviable track record at Channel 4 behind him, took the reins?

The subsequent exit from bingo and resorts looked sensible, taking the group out of mature businesses and giving it money to expand in more go-go areas. But a downturn in two of those three continuing divisions meant Mr Grade garnered little credit for what he achieved. The decision now to sell fitness, the fastest growing division, is odd — if the group retains the will to survive and thrive.

First Leisure shares, up 4 1/2p to 254 1/2p, have recovered from October's low of 160 1/2p, but are still short of the 436 1/2p reached a year ago. Shareholders should hang on for the denouement: yesterday's deal clearly puts First Leisure in play as a bid target if it is not broken up.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE

COMMODITIES

LIFE				ICS-LOR (London 5.00pms)				GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES			
COCOA				CRUDE OIL (Babylon FOB)				LIFE WHEAT		LIFE BARLEY	
								(cass 5/2)		(cass 5/2)	
May	587.00	May	535.81	Real Physical	15.65	-0.40		Jan	78.19	Mar	74.75
Jul	715.71	Jul	695.82	West 15 day (Ldn)	15.60	-0.45		Apr	77.19	Apr	73.00
Oct	697.58	Oct	677.58	West 15 day (Ldn)	15.60	-0.45		May	74.50	May	77.00
Nov	766.70	Nov	746.70	West 15 day (Ldn)	17.60	-0.50		Jun	76.50	Jun	75.00
Dec	768.77	Dec	748.77	W Texas Intermediate (Ldn)	17.60	-0.45		Jan	78.50	Mar	75.00
Jan	815.81	Jan	795.81					Volume 241		Volume 28	
ROBUSTA COFFEE				PRODUCTS (5MT)				LIFE POTATO (2/2)			
May	1429-1416	Jan	1456-1464	Spot C2F NW Europe (prompt delivery)				Open	Close		
Jul	1429-1428	Jul	1461-1457					Jan	170.0	Jan	170.0
Oct	1429-1428	Oct	1461-1457	Premium Light	161	161	161	Feb	170.0	Feb	170.0
Nov	1429-1428	Nov	1461-1457	3.5% BBS	126-9	126-9	126-9	Mar	75.0	Mar	75.0
Dec	1429-1428	Dec	1461-1457	Central Fed	70-1	72-1	72-1	Nov	75.0	Nov	75.0
Jan	1456-1459	Jan	1506	Regatta	138-10	141-11	141-11	Volume 79			
WHITE SUGAR (FOB)				IFE FUTURES (GNI Ldn)				RUBBER (No 1 RSS CF pH)			
December	May	May	183.0-81.5	May	120.56-28.75	May	130.00-33.75	Jan		Jan	
Oct	183.5	Oct	180.0-81.5	Jul	120.56-28.75	Jul	130.00-35.25				
Nov	171.9-70.2	Nov	194.0-71.5	Nov	120.56-32.00	Nov	265.00	Apr	95	Apr	98
Dec	172.8-72.1	Dec	190.0-75.0					May	100.5	May	101.5
Jan	174.0-73.3	Jan	196.0					Jun	93.5	Jun	98.0
MEAT & LIVESTOCK				BRIEF (15.00p)				LIFE BEANS (GNI Ldn 514p)			
COMMISSION				Jan	15.55-15.57	Jan	15.10-15.14	Jan	915	Jan	915
Average price paid at respective markets on April 23				Apr	15.26-18.34	Apr	16.0947	Feb	915	Feb	910
	Plg	Sheng	Cattle					Mar	915	Mar	915
	90.25	107.50	90.53					Apr	915	Apr	915
Open Interest: 2581								May	915	May	915
Index: 927 + 31								Jun	915	Jun	915

ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

No surprise in better than expected performance

The predictions of the world's economic forecasters are confounded on a regular basis

If the world economy confounds conventional forecasts this year — and it usually does — the main surprise is likely to be on the side of better than expected performance. This is the clearest conclusion I drew from conversations with the many economic officials gathered in Washington this week for the meetings of the G7, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

In making this prediction, I realise that last week's official forecasts show global economic growth slowing to a feeble 2.5 per cent this year and then accelerating only modestly to 3.4 per cent in 2000.

I also recognise that Michael Mussa, the IMF's chief economist, has publicly stated that the risks to the forecast are still mostly on the downside. Mr Mussa believes that the US economy could slow more sharply than expected after its fourth consecutive year of rapid growth. In Europe, where the IMF predicts that growth will accelerate from 2 to 3 per cent, Mr Mussa admits dismally that "the basis for our forecast of stronger activity is not entirely clear". In Japan there is the very real possibility of an even deeper depression and in Asia and other emerging markets the hopes of recovery are still clouded by many doubts.

Why, then, do I feel fairly confident that the world economy will beat official forecasts?

One reason is simply mechanical. When economic trends turn around, computerised models almost always underestimate the strength of both recoveries and slumps. This is not just a statistical quirk; it reflects an important feature of the real-life behaviour of policymakers, as well as businessmen and consumers, which conventional forecasts tend to ignore. This behaviour can be summarised in the classic sequence of financial emotions that characterise the tops and bottoms of bull and bear markets — "skepticism, denial, capitulation".

As share prices rise towards the top of a bull market, investors are at first sceptical about the level of stock prices. As prices keep rising, the previously sceptical investors go into denial — simply refusing to believe that further gains are possible. Finally, when the sceptics capitulate, throw caution to the winds and start buying the shares they considered overpriced when they were much cheaper several months or years before. It is usually soon after this point that a change in the trend finally occurs and the bull market collapses.



Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve, which remains optimistic on US growth

Exactly the same sequence tends to occur, albeit in less visible form, among central bankers and businessmen at the top and bottom of an economic cycle. The most important examples at present can be seen in the behaviour of the Federal Reserve Board and the European Central Bank.

Let us start with the ECB. Throughout last year the ECB and its predecessor, the Bundesbank, simply refused to take seriously the possibility of an economic downturn in Europe. When recession turned from possibility into reality last autumn, the ECB and the Bundesbank went into outright denial.

First the Bundesbank issued ludicrous comments suggesting that the global economic crisis would have less impact on Germany than on the US when all the statistics on trade and financial exposure pointed to the opposite conclusion. Then the ECB went even further, declaring that EMU would make Europe an "oasis of stability" in the very same week that Alan Greenspan, Chairman of US Federal Reserve, pointed out that not even the less-exposed American economy could hope to remain "an oasis of prosperity" in such a turbulent world.

Earlier this month, however, the ECB seemed finally to make the transition from denial to capitulation. With its unexpected 0.5 per cent rate cut and the subsequent statements by Wim Duisenberg, President of the ECB, implying that he welcomed the weakening of the euro, the ECB effectively threw in the towel on its deflationary doctrine.

Mr Duisenberg and his colleagues continue to pay lip service to the dogma that monetary policy has nothing to do with unemployment, but actions speak louder than words. Nobody I talked to in Washington last week was in doubt about the ECB's new commitment to stimulating the European economy. The general view among the people who are familiar with the European central bankers could be summarised like this: when ECB officials say that they won't use monetary policy to manage the economic cycle, they may sound like fools; but don't worry, they are just bars. It seems reasonable to assume, therefore, that the ECB will keep easing monetary policy and the euro will keep falling (albeit with occasional corrections) until such time as the key European economies, including Germany, the structuralist weakest one, show clear signs of growth.

But because there are bound to be long lags between interest rate cuts and visible signs of recovery, the ECB is likely to keep cutting interest rates even after a modest economic recovery is already "baked in the cake". This suggests that ECB policy will be eased far enough to ensure a stronger than expected recovery in euro-land as a whole, if not perhaps in Germany.

In America, an opposite, but equally powerful, sequence of scepticism, denial and capitulation can be observed. The Fed was until last year extremely sceptical about Wall Street's belief that America was enjoying a "new paradigm" of rapid economic growth and low unemployment that carried no risk of inflation.

Last summer, as the statistical evidence in favour of a new paradigm mounted, the Russian crisis gave the Fed a convenient reason to deny the importance of the whole ques-

tion. Instead of worrying that excessive economic growth might lead to inflation, the Fed quite rightly switched its attention to the risk that financial turmoil would cause a slump.

But today, the Fed is being forced to shift its focus back to inflation and rapid growth. In doing so, the Fed seems to be capitulating in its struggle against the "new paradigm". Officials now seem to accept that the US economy really can grow strongly for years on end without risking inflation.

The greatest surprise in my trip to America has been to hear senior Fed officials speaking about the possibility that America's long-term trend growth rate may now be as high as 3 per cent, instead of the 2 to 2.5 per cent generally assumed even a year ago. Some also note that the present, apparently very low level of unemployment is actually very near the average in the 1950s and 1960s which was 4.6 per cent. If that level could be sustained in the postwar period without any serious inflationary problems, why should it not prove equally sustainable today?

I put this question another way, maybe there is no need for a new paradigm to explain America's excellent economic performance. Perhaps it is sufficient to posit the old paradigm of the 1950s and early 1960s: a pragmatic mix of free market industrial policies, competitive labour markets and sensible demand management operating in a flexible, entrepreneurial economy.

I have believed for several years that deregulated markets combined with a return to the Keynesian "old paradigm" of active demand management could explain much of the recent economic success in America (and also in Britain). To my surprise and delight, I found senior Fed officials talking in very similar terms.

It remains to be seen whether events justify the Fed's optimism (and mine) about America's capacity for rapid, non-inflationary growth. It may turn out that the Fed has already waited too long before raising interest rates. The bubble in technology stocks on Wall Street, the consumer spending spree and the upsurge in US business investment could soon turn into an unsustainable, and ultimately inflationary, boom.

In fact, if I were an American central banker I would start edging interest rates gently upwards now to restrain the enthusiasm a little. But the Fed seems less inclined than in the past to follow its traditional principle of "taking away the punchbowl just when the party is getting merry". Maybe the Fed is wrong to give the economy so much leeway; more probably it is right. But either way, there is one prediction that can be made with a fair degree of confidence: in America, even more than in Europe, the economic surprises this year are likely to be on the upside.



Old for new: the original motto of the CWS — buy in bulk and buy cheap — is key to the agreement

Moves to a merger may solve the Co-op conundrum

What is the difference between a Co-operative and a Co-op? If you don't know, don't worry — this is one of the main problems that the fragmented and largely anonymous Co-operative movement has to deal with.

Fraser Nelson examines how the CWS and CRS will gain from reforming their alliance

This is the issue which yesterday's quasi-merger between the Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS) and Co-operative Retail Society (CRS) is aimed at clearing up.

The result is that the CRS, which trades as the "Co-operative", has pooled its buying power with the CWS, which sells goods labelled "Co-op".

In reforming an age-old alliance, they hope to recapture their buying power — and defend themselves from the best their capitalist counterparts have to throw at them.

Until fairly recently, the co-operative movement was quite straightforward. Almost all grocery shops traded under the distinctive "Co-op" logo, and issued stamps to shoppers who regularly queued for their "divi".

They set up the CWS, in 1863, to buy all the food. The idea was simple: buy in bulk; buy cheap to drive down prices; and let everyone share the profits.

As capitalists such as J Sainsbury expanded, the number of co-operative societies dwindled from a peak of 1,400 to 48 — each independent but sharing the same heritage and "not-for-profit" identity.

There are now two main camps. The first is dominated by the CWS, under Graham Melmoth — who two years ago saw off a hostile takeover approach from Andrew Regan, the 31-year-old financier.

As well as being Britain's largest farmer and largest funeral

manager, the CWS runs 560 of its own grocery shops. Its main task is to organise the "Co-operative Retail Trading Group" — a £3.5 billion food buying force which has steadily been joined by various other co-operative groceries.

CRS, which has 469 stores, has led the second faction and has been keen to steer clear of Mr Melmoth and his allies.

Until seven months ago, it bought its food from its own "refusenik" alliance: the Consortium of Independent Co-operatives (CIC) — which it formed with United Northwest and the Yorkshire Co-op.

Both companies badly need to reduce costs to improve their financial performance. In May last year the CRS reported that losses had doubled to £26 million from £13.5 million, partly because of a £155 million investment.

The CWS is in the black, but its interim profits slid to £16 million, from £20 million for the first six months of 1998. Mr Melmoth blamed this on the £7 million spent bringing back its "divi".

Much of the opposition to the CWS has been traced back to the era of Harry Moore, who resigned as CRS chief executive in October last year.

When the CIC alliance fell

apart in September, Mr Moore said that the CRS would rather go it alone than join Mr Melmoth and the CWS.

When Mr Moore retired, he was replaced by Andy Meeham, a former Sainsbury manager, drafted in to inject some capitalist-management styles into the CRS.

One of his first moves was to commission McKinsey, the management consultant, to come up with proposals for a shake-up. The results came yesterday. Mr Meeham has sold off its non-grocery businesses, comprising 46 department stores called "Living" and 10 Home-world stores. This raised £149 million.

Next, Mr Meeham has ended years of resistance and decided to join Mr Melmoth's alliance — and has created a buying machine with firepower of £4.5 billion a year.

The idea is exactly the same as the original motto of the CWS: buy in bulk; and buy cheap. If effect, it generates all the price advantages of a full merger — which many industry observers think will be the next step.

Clive Beddall, editor of *The Grocer*, said: "A merger is bound to happen one day, but it's been bound to happen for the last 20 years. They are just following the trend in the industry."

Mr Melmoth is aware of the continual danger. "The City machine — lawyers, advisers, bankers, the press — has a gargantuan appetite and it has to be fed," he said recently.

By ending years of rivalry with the CWS and returning to his society's co-operative roots, Mr Meeham is also determined that the CRS should also be kept from the jaws of the monster.

Peter out

SCANNING the speakers at tomorrow's Institute of Directors annual convention, I detect a politician-free zone. The headlines at last year's event were stolen by Peter Mandelson, who cunningly managed to be invited along even before he became Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

"The members requested after last year's convention not to have a political speech," the IoD tells me. Instead, they get Michael Grade, Britain's former "pornographer-in-chief", and Sir Paul Condon of the Met Police, among others. So ends an

odd *rapprochement*, even for the Blair era.

Two years ago Tim Melville-Ross, Director-General at the IoD, was tempted into some unwise remarks about how awful a Labour government would be, a prospect that materialised soon afterwards.

Mandy's visit was seen as cementing new Labour's relationship with all in the business world. But it seems they didn't want him back.

FURTHER on the Prince of Darkness (rtd), Mandelson's recent trip to South Africa to help the ANC's election cause was sponsored by the AEEU. The union has just settled the bill, and I understand that Ken Jackson, general secretary, had insisted that Mandy went economy class.

The reason? Payback time for Mandelson's well-publicised remarks to the Labour conference last year about "horny handed sons of toil".

Mother lode

A SHARP-EYED Australian financial journalist set off a chain of events that led to the first successful legal action ever against a Swiss bank for



the return of Holocaust victims' assets. The story is told by James Kirby in *My Mother's Diamonds*, about the struggle to make the Swiss admit to such accounts.

The Irish-born Kirby was banking correspondent of *The Australian* when he came across a small ad in 1995 placed by a suburban Australian lawyer seeking claimants to recover assets lost to Swiss banks. Australia has, proportionately, the world's largest community of Holocaust survivors outside Israel and stories he wrote for the paper brought hundreds of responses.

The book details the first settlement, by Swiss Bank Corporation with one of Henry Burstyn's clients. Publication was nearly prevented by a non-disclosure agreement signed by the lawyer, but

enough of the story had come out beforehand.

Other litigants were successfully silenced, however. "The banks got better at this sort of thing soon after," says Kirby.

DANGEROUS things, e-mails. Steve Berry, assistant vice-president at Greenwich NavWest, fired off an electronic whinge to *Life*, the futures market, about having to work over the May and August Bank Holidays because European exchanges are open.

Copies of his message are, inexplicably, doing the rounds of the ether with various rude comments attached. "So now we are marching to the tune of the German Exchange," Berry rants. "Am I suddenly a European instead of British? Must I put my watch forward another hour?"

Berry is refusing to comment on what he says is personal correspondence, but a colleague says: "He's terribly upset about it all."

Photo call

LAST week Howard Stringer, chairman of Sony's American business, was barely known outside the TV world. He was then "outed" as one of the potential candidates to run the BBC. (He won't get it: the BBC governors are far too timid to appoint an American.)

I have just been invited to

photograph him today at his old school, Oundle, where he will address pupils on "The Spirit of Enterprise".

I immediately assumed that Stringer, who has bought a cottage in the Cotswolds and not ruled himself out for the BBC job, had started the publicity mills working.

Not at all. He doesn't know the cameras will be there. Someone at Oundle spotted that their old boy was newsworthy, according to the school's communications officer, Megan Smedley, who also teaches English. O brave new world, where schools have communications officers.

MARTIN WALLER

city diary@the-times.co.uk



Howard Stringer is to address pupils at his former school, Oundle

Why it's .e not to



[change]

If your organisation is preparing for the world of e-commerce, it really would be madness not to talk to Energis.

Because we are rated No.1 for quality by the people who matter — the UK's leading telecoms managers. Our internet company, Planet Online, has also been named as the top business ISP, while our national network has consistently been rated as the most reliable. These are not just claims. They are proof that we are committed to providing quality of service — day in, day out.

Energis is the only national telecoms provider to dedicate its all-round expertise solely to business. So, whether voice, data or e-commerce, isn't it time you thought about changing to us? To find out more, visit the Energis website or call us now on 0800 316 0613.

www.energis.co.uk

*The 1999 TMA Customer Award for Quality 1999

**Best Business ISP — 1998-1999 — CMA media

With quality of service like ours, it's crazy not to.

ENERGIS
voice+data+business



"With 2½ million members you're telling me you're not one of them"

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

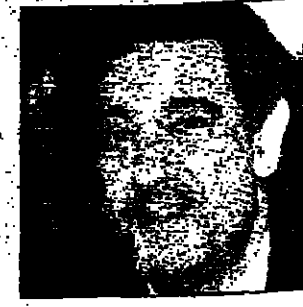
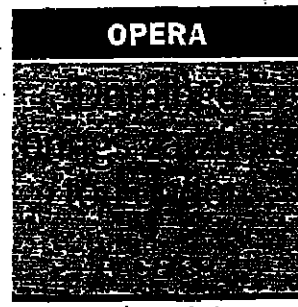
TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1999 Low Company PE +/- % PE				1999 Low Company PE +/- % PE				1999 Low Company PE +/- % PE							
43	71	800	1065	+1	15	132		355	725	1000	1380	+1	15	132	
44	72	800	1065	+1	15	132		356	726	1001	1381	+1	15	132	
45	73	801	1066	+1	15	132		357	727	1002	1382	+1	15	132	
46	74	802	1067	+1	15	132		358	728	1003	1383	+1	15	132	
47	75	803	1068	+1	15	132		359	729	1004	1384	+1	15	132	
48	76	804	1069	+1	15	132		360	730	1005	1385	+1	15	132	
49	77	805	1070	+1	15	132		361	731	1006	1386	+1	15	132	
50	78	806	1071	+1	15	132		362	732	1007	1387	+1	15	132	
51	79	807	1072	+1	15	132		363	733	1008	1388	+1	15	132	
52	80	808	1073	+1	15	132		364	734	1009	1389	+1	15	132	
53	81	809	1074	+1	15	132		365	735	1010	1390	+1	15	132	
54	82	810	1075	+1	15	132		366	736	1011	1391	+1	15	132	
55	83	811	1076	+1	15	132		367	737	1012	1392	+1	15	132	
56	84	812	1077	+1	15	132		368	738	1013	1393	+1	15	132	
57	85	813	1078	+1	15	132		369	739	1014	1394	+1	15	132	
58	86	814	1079	+1	15	132		370	740	1015	1395	+1	15	132	
59	87	815	1080	+1	15	132		371	741	1016	1396	+1	15	132	
60	88	816	1081	+1	15	132		372	742	1017	1397	+1	15	132	
61	89	817	1082	+1	15	132		373	743	1018	1398	+1	15	132	
62	90	818	1083	+1	15	132		374	744	1019	1399	+1	15	132	
63	91	819	1084	+1	15	132		375	745	1020	1400	+1	15	132	
64	92	820	1085	+1	15	132		376	746	1021	1401	+1	15	132	
65	93	821	1086	+1	15	132		377	747	1022	1402	+1	15	132	
66	94	822	1087	+1	15	132		378	748	1023	1403	+1	15	132	
67	95	823	1088	+1	15	132		379	749	1024	1404	+1	15	132	
68	96	824	1089	+1	15	132		380	750	1025	1405	+1	15	132	
69	97	825	1090	+1	15	132		381	751	1026	1406	+1	15	132	
70	98	826	1091	+1	15	132		382	752	1027	1407	+1	15	132	
71	99	827	1092	+1	15	132		383	753	1028	1408	+1	15	132	
72	100	828	1093	+1	15	132		384	754	1029	1409	+1	15	132	
73	101	829	1094	+1	15	132		385	755	1030	1410	+1	15	132	
74	102	830	1095	+1	15	132		386	756	1031	1411	+1	15	132	
75	103	831	1096	+1	15	132		387	757	1032	1412	+1	15	132	
76	104	832	1097	+1	15	132		388	758	1033	1413	+1	15	132	
77	105	833	1098	+1	15	132		389	759	1034	1414	+1	15	132	
78	106	834	1099	+1	15	132		390	760	1035	1415	+1	15	132	
79	107	835	1100	+1	15	132		391	761	1036	1416	+1	15	132	
80	108	836	1101	+1	15	132		392	762	1037	1417	+1	15	132	
81	109	837	1102	+1	15	132		393	763	1038	1418	+1	15	132	
82	110	838	1103	+1	15	132		394	764	1039	1419	+1	15	132	
83	111	839	1104	+1	15	132		395	765	1040	1420	+1	15	132	
84	112	840	1105	+1	15	132		396	766	1041	1421	+1	15	132	
85	113	841	1106	+1	15	132		397	767	1042	1422	+1	15	132	
86	114	842	1107	+1	15	132		398	768	1043	1423	+1	15	132	
87	115	843	1108	+1	15	132		399	769	1044	1424	+1	15	132	
88	116	844	1109	+1	15	132		400	770	1045	1425	+1	15	132	
89	117	845	1110	+1	15	132		401	771	1046	1426	+1	15	132	
90	118	846	1111	+1	15	132		402	772	1047	1427	+1	15	132	
91	119	847	1112	+1	15	132		403	773	1048	1428	+1	15	132	
92	120	848	1113	+1	15	132		404	774	1049	1429	+1	15	132	
93	121	849	1114	+1	15	132		405	775	1050	1430	+1	15	132	
94	122	850	1115	+1	15	132		406	776	1051	1431	+1	15	132	
95	123	851	1116	+1	15	132		407	777	1052	1432	+1	15	132	
96	124	852	1117	+1	15	132		408	778	1053	1433	+1	15	132	
97	125	853	1118	+1	15	132		409	779	1054	1434	+1	15	132	
98	126	854	1119	+1	15	132		410	780	1055	1435	+1	15	132	
99	127	855	1120	+1	15	132		411	781	1056	1436	+1	15	132	
100	128	856	1121	+1	15	132		412	782	1057	1437	+1	15	132	
101	129	857	1122	+1	15	132		413	783	1058	1438	+1	15	132	
102	130	858	1123	+1	15	132		414	784	1059	1439	+1	15	132	
103	131	859	1124	+1	15	132		415	785	1060	1440	+1	15	132	
104	132	860	1125	+1	15	132		416	786	1061	1441	+1	15	132	
105	133	861	1126	+1	15	132		417	787	1062	1442	+1	15	132	
106	134	862	1127	+1	15	132		418	788	1063	1443	+1	15	132	
107	135	863	1128	+1	15	132		419	789	1064	1444	+1	15	132	
108	136	864	1129	+1	15	132		420	790	1065	1445	+1	15	132	
109	137	865	1130	+1	15	132		421	791	1066	1446	+1	15	132	
110	138	866	1131	+1	15	132		422	792	1067	1447	+1	15	132	
111	139	867	1132	+1	15	132		423	793	1068	1448	+1	15	132	
112	140	868	1133	+1	15	132		424	794	1069	1449	+1	15	132	
113	141	869	1134	+1	15	132		425	795	1070	1450	+1	15	132	
114	142	870	1135	+1	15	132		426	796	1071	1451	+1	15	132	
115	143	871	1136	+1	15	132		427	797	1072	1452	+1	15	132	
116	144	872	1137	+1	15	132		428	798	1073	1453	+1	15	132	
117	145	873	1138	+1	15	132		429	799	1074	1454	+1	15	132	
118	146	874	1139	+1	15	132		430	800	1075	1455	+1	15	132	
119	147	875	1140	+1	15	132		431	801	1076	1456	+1	15	132	
120	148	876	1141	+1	15	132		432	802	1077	1457	+1	15	132	
121	149	877	1142	+1	15	132		433	803	1078	1458	+1	15	132	
122	150	878	1143	+1	15	132		434	804	1079	1459	+1	15	132	
123	151	879	1144	+1	15	132		435	805	1080	1460	+1	15	132	
124	152	880	1145	+1	15	132		436	806	1081	1461	+1	15	132	
125	153	881	1146	+1	15	132		437	807	1082	1462	+1	15	132	
126	154	882	1147	+1	15	132		438	808	1083	1463	+1	15	132	
127	155	883	1148	+1	15	132		439	809	1084	1464	+1	15	132	
128	156	884	1149	+1	15	132		440	810	1085	1465	+1	15	132	
129	157	885	1150	+1	15	132		441	811	1086	1466	+1	15	132	
130	158	886	1151	+1	15	132		442	812	1087	1467	+1	15	132	
131	159	887	1152	+1	15	132		443	813	1088	1468	+1	15	132	
132	160	888	1153	+1	15	132		444	814	1089	1469	+1	15	132	
133	161	889	1154	+1	15	132		445	815	1090	1470	+1	15	132	
134	162	890	1155	+1	15	132		446	816	1091	1471	+1	15	132	
135	163	891	1156	+1	15	132		447	817	1092	1472	+1	15	132	
136	164	892	1157	+1	15	132		448	818	1093	1473	+1	15	132	
137	165	893	1158	+1	15	132		449	819	1094	1474	+1	15	132	
138	166	894	1159	+1	15	132		450	820	1095	1475	+1	15	132	
139	167	895	1160	+1	15	132		451	821	1096	1476	+1	15	132	
140	168	896	1161	+1	15	132		452	822	1097	1477	+1	15	132	
141	169	897	1162	+1	15	132		453	823	1098	1478	+1	15	132	
142	170	898	1163	+1	15	132		454	824	1099	1479	+1	15	132	
143	171	899	1164	+1	15	132		455	825	1100	1480	+1	15	132	
144	172	900	1165	+1	15	132		456	826	1101	1481	+1	15	132	
145	173	901	1166	+1	1										

[illegible]



THE TIMES ARTS



Indie goes to school

A strange mixture of obsessive fan convention and teddy bear's picnic, the inaugural Bowie Weekend festival went off without any serious hitches in the sleepy East Sussex holiday resort of Camber Sands last weekend. Organised by the Glasgow-based cult band Belle and Sebastian, winners of the 1999 Brit award for Best Newcomer, this three-day event was intended to showcase the finest independent music past and present, with a bill hand-picked by the hosts themselves.

Based at Pontin's holiday camp, the sold-out festival had an oddly nostalgic ambience. Kitted out like Erid Blyon characters in dufl coats, school satchels and hairgrips, the 2,600 ticketholders seemed keen to recreate some sort of idealised pre-pubescent playground. The casual drug use which attends more orthodox rock festivals was barely evident, although there were doubtless a healthy black market in Smarties and Ribena.

Apologists for Belle and Sebastian and their diarch "indie" philosophy insist that Bowie is the future of festivals, the antidote to impersonal events like Glastonbury with their appalling amenities and mainstream music agenda. More cynical voices might argue that this is the last gasp of a creatively and ideologically bankrupt subculture, limping off to its seaside retirement home with only its rose-tinted memories for company.

Either way, Bowie undoubtedly generated a friendly atmosphere and boasted cosy chaise longue accommodation far superior to most rock festivals. Serious scholars of rock history might well protest at the conservative musical menu,

POP

which was almost exclusively white and guitar-based. Judged on its own terms, though, the weekend proved highly enjoyable.

A sizeable chunk of the bill added up to a comprehensive anthology of independent Scottish bands from the past 15 years. Veteran indie luminaries such as the Pastels and Teenage Fanclub, each playing their own distinctive brand of classic guitar rock, rubbed shoulders with their more willfully atonal Clydeside off-spring AC Acoustics and the Delgados. All were enthusiastically received, but a bigger stir was caused by surprise guests Mogwai, whose volcanic rock instrumentals have garnered international acclaim in the past 18 months.

In fact, Mogwai were exceptional for being precisely the only British act at Bowie who could match the festival's foreign contingent for hardcore intensity. Explosive New York trio the Jon Spencer Blues Explosion brought a much-needed dash of sexually charged, primal punk attitude to proceedings. Similarly, the Montreal collective Godspeed You! Black Emperor conjured up remarkably fierce, darkly atmospheric instrumentalism by employing violins and cellos with violent inventiveness.

The all-female American trio Sleater-Kinney brought a flinty, fractious brand of fast-paced guitar pop to Bowie. Not to be outdone, the versatile Japanese multi-instrumentalist Cornelius abandoned the electronic soundscape of his records to deliver a punishingly loud garage-rock set.

But the biggest non-British attractions of the weekend were undoubtedly two veteran American underground bands, Mercury Rev and the Flaming Lips. Universally lauded for their 1998 album *Deerhoof*, Mercury Rev played a magisterial set grounded in rootsy traditionalism but peppered with more experimental echoes of their arty past. At times it was like listening to a Seventies stadium supergroup, with mean-



Having a hi-de-hi time Jonathan Donahue of underground veterans Mercury Rev

dering guitar solos which threatened to stretch until Christmas, but their masterful marriage of quavering choirboy vocals to toweringly anthemic tunes left little room for any reaction besides awestruck reverence. The Flaming Lips, meanwhile, seem poised to repeat Mercury Rev's success with their imminent album *A Soft Bulletin*. Blending pre-recorded orchestral strings with guitars, keyboards and scarily melodic vocalists, these grey-templed Oklahomans played a blazing set of soulful psychedelia topped with occasional flash-

es of transcendent majesty. Closing the weekend's festivities were Belle and Sebastian themselves, who certainly deserve commendation as festival hosts. Their music, however, remains an acquired taste. Precious teenage poetry, reedy church-mouse vocals and anemic instrumentalism merely reaffirm the most negative and unwittingly comic stereotypes about indie music: cult following or not, Bowie was a fine idea, but perhaps they should stick to purely administrative roles next time.

STEPHEN DALTON

And for his next trick...

The American alternative country scene is a booming cottage industry right now but Arizona's Howe Gelb and his band, Giant Sand, have been quietly releasing leftfield rootsy folk records since the 1980s. Their collaboration with kooky singer/songwriter Lisa Germano on the OF8 project resulted in one of the best albums of 1997 in *Slush*, and now Gelb has just released his first solo album, *Hisser*, on the V2 label.

Recorded mostly at his Tucson home using a 19th-century upright grand piano, a Salvation Army pump organ and a turn-of-the-century gut string acoustic guitar, *Hisser* is a sparse but beautiful record that seems spooked by its time-travelled instruments and the ghosts of the balmy desert which surround it. Yet it translated extremely well to a Dublin stage on this, the first of Gelb's European tour.

Whelan's bar is the ideal location for such a gig, thanks in part to the warm, orange glow of its soft lighting, and the welcoming tables and chairs in front of the stage that allow the clusters of people further back in this snug venue a clear view of proceedings.

Tall, dark and strikingly handsome, Gelb looks like a character in a Bruce Springsteen road song, with his denim shirt, cowboy boots and gruff, goatee beard. All the stage is his playground, as he shuffles from electric piano to acoustic guitar to the array of fanciful gaudy on show. Almost by way of an apology for the fact that he is the only musician at work, he runs a pre-recorded tapes through a mixer on stage which is in turn run through distortion, delay and tremolo pedals. By all accounts, he prepares no set list.

Such wilful spontaneity and jaunty haphazardry kept him on his toes and us continually surprised and excited by his next trick. One minute, he is playing a live recording of two Pakistani sisters singing an Abba standard in Hindi, the next he is picking on his acoustic guitar and singing a mournful, wistful-sounding ballad about "the flaws of rapture" that puts one in mind of *On The Beach* or Neil Young.

But no matter how disparate the musical styles or how quirky the experimentation, the imprimatur of Gelb's singular talent is always visible.

NICK KELLY

Royal old retainers

Now 68, Moore was the guitarist responsible for all those amazing licks on *Heartbreak Hotel*, *Hound Dog* and every other song until 1958 when Presley went into the army. Fontana was the drummer providing that distinctive backbeat. Ten years later, they were reunited with the King on his comeback TV special. It was the last time they ever saw him.

This was a strange evening, for al-

though they were billed as the headliners, Moore and Fontana continue to behave like sidemen. Neither sang or even spoke to the audience, leaving the cheerleading to the pick-up band of British musicians led by singer Ian Cunningham. He had a more than passable early Elvis rockabilly voice but he still belonged to the school of journeyman imitators.

They ran through the early Presley

catalogue more or less chronologically for just over an hour, starting with *That's All Right (Mama)* and ending with 1958's *King Creole*, and there were many who were thrilled just to see two veterans of the Sun studio standing on stage. The fact that they could still play a bit was almost a bonus. Earlier in a radio interview, Moore had been unable even to remember the names of the pick-up band, and as they reprised *Mystery Train* for the second time you couldn't help feeling it was all a bit sad.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Mark Hargreaves

LONDON

PLENTY: Cate Blanchett plays David Hare's heroine in her years of descent from 1945 to the 1980s. Jonathan Kent directs first major revival for 21 years. Albery (0171-388 8822). Opens tonight, 7pm.

ALL PASSION SPENT: New stage version of Vis Saville-West's story of the widow who disarms her children with her revolutionary views. Alison Clarke directs for Stop Gap. One week only. Whitehall Studio (0181-540 0082). Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

MUSIC THEATRE KENNOW: This visit by the popular touring company offers productions of Donizetti's comedy *L'Elle d'Amore* (tonight, May 7 and 8, 7.30pm) and, in association with Modern Baroque Opera from Vancouver, Gluck's enchanting chamber piece *La Cenerentola* (tomorrow and May 8, 7.30pm). Bloomsbury (0171-388 8822). 6.

SPRING LOADED: Choreographer Suzanne Thomas directs her Seven Sisters Group in Salomé performed in the spooky underground chambers of the unloved in Parnassus Hotel on Euston Road. In this quirky multimedia event audience members are guided, one by one, through a maze of mirrors, video projections, movement and sound. Tonight-Sun. Box Office (0171-387 0031) for performance times and availability.

ELSEWHERE
ADHERENT: Scottish Ballet's spring season ideas off its short run here with performances of Light Fandango choreographed by Robert North and set to traditional Scottish and Irish themes, followed by Bournonville's



David Hare's *Plenty* is staged at the Albery

charming Romantic piece *La Sylphide* reproduced by Hans Brenes. The Royal Opera House (01224 641122). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. 6.

SAUSURRY: Donnie Draper's production of Three Sisters for Oxford Stage Co arrives here for a week on road in London's Whitehall Theatre. Playhouse (01222 320333). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. 6.

WORTHING: Women on the Verge of HRT. Marie Jones's warm comedy with music, revolves around two forty-something ladies of the heart-throb singer Daniel O'Donnell. Penn Theatre (01753 835333). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. 6.

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London
■ House full, returns only ■ Some seats available ■ Seats at all prices

■ **THE BIRTHDAY PARTY:** Prunella Scales and Timothy West head a strong cast in Caryl Churchill's play, memorably joining comedy and menace. Joe Harrison directs. Piccadilly (0171-388 1734).

■ **CANDIDE:** Great songs in Bernstein's musical about Voltaire's satirical cast led by Daniel Evans, John Kelly and Simon Russell Beale. Olivier (0171-452 3001).

■ **MAMMA MIA!** Enjoyable musical that tells a tale of three fathers of a bride in order to save a family through a storm of love. Prince Edward (0171-447 5400).

■ **THE CUCKOO AND THE NIGHT-INGALE:** Another Nazi face interrogation, this time Rudolf Hess quizzed by his Spandau guards in Don Helder's two-hander. See review, page 38. New End, NWS (0171-794 0022). 6.

■ **SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER:** Sheila Gish plays the venomous mother and Rachel Wadsworth the traumatised niece in the farcical comedy. Sean Mathias directs. Comedy (0171-388 1734).

■ **MAKING NOISE QUIETLY:** Donizetti's *L'Elle d'Amore* opens a London season with Robert Holman's history of short plays where singers meet at a time of war. Whitehall (0171-388 1734).

■ **THE GIN GAME:** Dorothy Tutin and John Wood play old folk in a retirement home whose card-playing skills echo their real lives. Savoy (0171-388 8888).

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

■ **THE DISPUTE:** Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Moliere where four imprisoned actors attempt to find the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W8 (0181-741 2311). 6.

Too many blips on the screen

Despite a starry cast and director, *Pushing Tin* has not set America alight. Giles Whittell reports

When the director of *Four Weddings and a Funeral* makes a comedy thriller about air traffic controllers, you have to ask why. What made Mike Newell think the singularly specialised profession of aerial orienteering was his sort of material? The short answer is that the *New York Times Magazine* ran a story on air traffic controllers in 1996 that caught his eye. The longer one must be that he thought he could heat up some compelling human drama in the pressure cooker of a windowless room filled with radar screens.

Well, he hasn't. *Pushing Tin* is a film that lures you in with the promise of slick New York laughs and slabs of jargon-laden dialogue (which is, to be sure, one of the great unacknowledged crowd-pullers: just ask Tom Stoppard), only to leave you lollygagging in Long Island at two moderately interesting couples being unfaithful to each other.

Pushing Tin — the phrase refers to the business of moving planes around the sky — is also a gift to film critics fond of clumsy metaphors. It's "a lively flight for most of the way", said *Variety*, generously. *People* magazine decided it "fails to stay aloft". The *Chicago Sun Times* likened it to "an overloaded airplane struggling to lift off", and the *Los Angeles Times* called it a "near miss".

To be fair, for its first half-hour it soars. Giant metal tubes with fuel-laden wings do their dangerous ballet over the world's most dramatic cluster of skyscrapers as knowing voiceovers speak rapidly of knots, altitude and sharp left



turns. Indoors, little diamonds of light move jerkily across expensive-looking "scopes" and flash red when they get too close to each other.

This is New York's air traffic control centre which, thanks to Kennedy, Newark and La Guardia airports, apparently handles "more planes, closer together, than anywhere else on earth". West Drayton may disagree, but when we hear that each controller is "responsible for more lives in a single shift than a surgeon in his entire life", we dare not quibble. The sensation is not unlike watching *ER*: we are under the spell of competence, and this makes it unnerving that the controllers themselves are so close to being bonkers. Only one of them is female, and she's a body-builder, while the sanest of the men is insanely competitive.

Meet Nick "the Zone" Falzone, played by John Cusack. He can line up half-a-dozen incoming jumbos while serenading his colleagues in a dulcet baritone, and still leave time for private banter with each pilot. Lines like "Welcome to my sky, my favourite redneck" are his idea of *chumminess*.

Falzone starts out happily married to Cate Blanchett who, as a Long Island house-



John Cusack as Nick "the Zone" Falzone, air traffic controller *par excellence* and hero of Mike Newell's unsatisfying examination of the world of radar and near misses, *Pushing Tin*

wife with a flawless Italian-American accent, is so unrecognisable from Elizabeth that she must be the real thing — a film star who can act. Then Russell Bell (Billy Bob Thorn-

ton) strides in from Arizona, where he had a reputation as the best controller in the West and liked to lie down under landing "heavies" to feel the effects of weight turbulence. The turbulence sent Bell cartwheeling across the runway, and he has a video to prove it. His 19-year-old wife, played by Angelina Jolie, has a similar effect on Falzone's marriage when she allows him to seduce her after he finds her in tears in a supermarket over a dead fuchsia hybrid.

With this film Thornton joins Gene Hackman and Robert Duvall in the pantheon of great scene-stealers. Asked if

he enjoys sports, for instance, he says he "used to bowl" when he was an alcoholic, and makes it sound as if he liked stealing babies too. Meanwhile, Jolie — who is Jon Voigt's daughter — looks convincingly lost in New York, and Cusack effortlessly carries the affair along, insofar as it goes anywhere.

Here lies the problem. The dialogue is sharp and sounds authentic, as it should when written by Glen and Les Charles, two of the creators of *Cheers*. But once the Zone has slept with Mrs Bell there is, apart from the inevitable re-

criminations and an insulting contrived bomb scare, no plot. It's as if Newell is scared of lingering on the nerdy niceties of air traffic control, which in fact are the most intriguing aspect of the film. Most people fly, after all, and most want to land in one piece. True, air traffic controllers are not astronauts, and there are limits to the intrinsic glamour of a crew of tense arithmeticians in a darkened bunker. This is why, as *Pushing Tin* unfolds, one often wishes one of the swaggering maestros of action were doing the unfolding. "There's an aluminium shower in that guy's future," Falzone says of Bell, meaning

he's a loose cannon who could cause a mid-air collision. So where's the collision? Or at least the full-blown near miss or, at the very least, a suicide or nervous breakdown, since we're told air traffic controllers have so many of these? If this were a *Jerry (Top Gun)* Bruckheimer film, we'd have all three, and a villain trying to mess with the radar to boot. Instead we end up with not one but two controllers cartwheeling in the wreckage of a 747 in search of themselves. *Pushing Tin* did not light up the box office at the weekend and *Election* fared even worse, despite some of the best

reviews of any film in recent months. This mordant satire on contemporary American high school life boasts a career-making performance by Reese Witherspoon as a sickeningly ambitious know-all, and a career-saving turn by Matthew Broderick (hopeless in *Godzilla* last year) as her well-meaning teacher. It was not in the weekend's Top Ten films — possibly because it leaves an unintentionally bleak impression in the wake of the Columbine school shootings. Then again, *The Matrix* is one of the films accused of inspiring the school gunmen, and in its fourth week it's back at No 1.

US WEEKEND BOX-OFFICE TAKINGS AND ANALYSIS

1	(2) <i>The Matrix</i> (Warner Bros)	\$12.9m/\$99m
2	(1) <i>Life</i> (Universal)	\$11.6m/\$20.4m
3	(3) <i>Never Been Kissed</i> (Twentieth Century Fox)	\$6.2m/\$22.9m
4	(4) <i>Pushing Tin</i> (Twentieth Century Fox)	\$3.6m
5	(5) <i>Analogue Yule</i> (Warner Bros)	\$3.2m/\$91.1m
6	(6) <i>Lost & Found</i> (Warner Bros)	\$3.1m
7	(7) <i>10 Things I Hate About You</i> (Touchstone)	\$2.8m/\$25.1m
8	(8) <i>The Out-of-Towners</i> (Paramount)	\$2m/\$20.5m
9	(9) <i>Go</i> (Columbia)	\$2m/\$9.4m
10	(10) <i>Forces of Nature</i> (DreamWorks)	\$1.7m/\$45.8m

1. First amount is estimated weekend takings, April 23-25. Second amount is total takings to April 19. Figure in brackets indicates last week's position

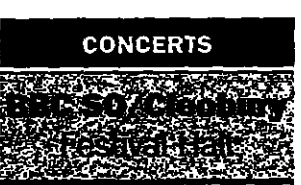
● Bullish folk at Warner Bros are predicting that *The Matrix* will end up with around \$160 million in American box-office takings. The cyber-space thriller with Keanu Reeves returned to the top of the table at the weekend, ousting Eddie Murphy's prison drama *Life* after just one week.

Where gran left off

The pernickety might question the inclusion of world premieres in the BBC's *Endless Parade* series dedicated to "Classics of British Music since 1945". Yet here on Saturday was *The Sultan's Turban*, a Post-Modernist bon-bon from David Bedford, lined up against the heavy brigade: Tippett, Britten, Walton.

Classic or not, Bedford's BBC commission proved the perfect concert opener. The conductor Nicholas Cleobury strode to the rostrum. To a background drone from the lower strings, the BBC Symphony Orchestra's violins sprang up with arpeggios. The notes fragmented with tinkling percussion and woodwind bird pecks; then the brass threw a fit. The pattern was repeated once, twice, thrice, the texture steadily filling out.

So what was this, a routine flexing of Minimalist muscles? More than that. Sunlight was hitting the Sultan's turban, as described in the *Rubaiyat* of Omar Khayyam and set to music by Bedford's grandmother Liza Lehmann in her song cycle *In a Persian Garden* (a big



hit with late Victorians). The arpeggios were lifted from that source, though successive elements in this rhapsody for the millennium's dawn came from Bedford's more recent past. Aside from Minimalism, 1970s symphonic rock wafted up, as did New Romanticism. It was all very pleasant and toe-tapping, certainly more than the new millennium promises to be.

Britain's musical establishment then took over. If any of Tippett's works is an "endless parade", it must be the *Triple Concerto* of 1978-79. Strands of knotty string lyricism, brass chunterings and the becalmed shimmerings inspired by gamelans merge and separate into infinity. Pools of boredom result. So do problems of balance. Radio listeners might have had the best of it on stage, Paul Watkins's impassioned cello edged out his col-

leagues in the Enesco Trio, Elizabeth Layton (violin) and Jane Atkins (viola).

Still, there are moments in the Tippett beautiful enough to stop the heart, as there are in Britten's dramatic cantata *Phaedra*, his last vocal work, compact and urgent. "Fool, I love you" sang the mezzo-soprano Louise Winter, swaying in purple. But *Phaedra* was the fool, falling for her stepson Hippolytus, and Winter pounced eloquently on the abrupt anguish in Britten's setting of Racine's lines.

Feelings ran higher still in Walton's *Second Symphony*, once neglected, now clearly seen as his punchiest postwar achievement. Here Cleobury and the BBC SO were at their best — rhythms crisp, tension firm, lyric stretches steeped in melancholy. True, the finale still collapsed at the end, but that was more Walton's problem than theirs.

GEOFF BROWN

I wine to say it, but Yo Yo Ma has his ups and downs. He is both an aristocrat of the cello and its irrepressible *enfant terrible*. It is to his eternal credit that he has escaped the endless round of Elgars and Dvoraks that make up the career of most world-class cellists, to explore other traditions: his yo-yo, his forays into the film world and the Baroque cello. But this latter enterprise has not always been a success.

There is more to playing a gut-strung cello with a Baroque bow than getting the equipment right. Cellists like Anner Byssner and Pieter Wisselwey have spent years perfecting the art, while Steven Isserlis, brought up on gut strings, has an instinct for tone production that still eludes Ma.

His chief problem lies in his inability to let the sound ring free, the very essence of this playing style. The aptly named Margaret Faultless, leader of Amsterdam Baroque, and its principal cellist Jonathan Manson, showed him up all too clearly in an arrangement of *Erharte dich*.

Out of place in Baroque world



His tight vibrato, squeezed sound and wayward intonation contrasted starkly with the open glow of their tone and wonderful fluidity of line. A tendency to play sharp, particularly in an embarrassing *Air* on a G-string, suggested that he finds the lower Baroque pitch a problem.

Performance aside, Koopman's chorale arrangements were ill-conceived: a high cello sound cannot project through the orchestral texture as the voice or a non-string instrument can. One felt that we were watching the equivalent of Ma humming along to a tune in the bath: his enjoyment palpable, but the solemn chorales diminished.

The Boccherini *Concerto in G* came as a relief: intonation was still varied, but at least we were hearing a cellist in music scored to make him shine. Ma lent his animal spirits to Boccherini's buoyant invention, and there were glimpses of

what he might do were he to tame this cello, particularly in a beautifully limpid descending scale at the end of the *Adagio* and some dazzling passage-work in the finale. But an encore movement was, again, ex-cruciating despite the enthusiasm of an audience of fans, some of whom walked out after the concerto.

They missed an enchanting and witty performance of Mozart's *Symphony No 29* from the *Amsterdam Baroque*, rare visitors to London, and the

real stars of the night. Ton Koopman's fiery energy also made Rameau's *Dardanus* or chestnut suite crackle. The explosive "bruits de guerre" sizzled, while the comical Tambourin was accompanied by two bows clattering on the bass strings. The soft, true note of a wooden flute calling into the silence in the *Chaconne*, and the beguiling violin solo which closes it, were high points.

HELEN WALLACE

"A TRUE THEATRICAL SENSATION"

"SAVAGE, SWEATY, TENSE - PERFECTLY PITCHED"

"POTENT AND RIVETING FROM START TO FINISH"

Suddenly in Summer

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

"SHEILA GISH IS IN TREMENDOUS FORM"

"SEAN MATHIAS DIRECTS WITH AN UNERRING SENSE OF STYLE, CONTENT AND FEELING"

"RACHEL WEISZ RISES HAUNTINGLY TO THE OCCASION"

UNTIL 17 JULY COMEDY THEATRE

0171 369 1731 0171 344 4444

BUILDING A LIBRARY

A guide to the best classical music available on CD, presented in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

VIVALDI'S GLORIA

Reviewed by Lucie Skeaping

For those taking in Venice on the Grand Tour in the early 18th century, there was one part of the itinerary that simply could not be missed — a visit to the Ospedale della Pietà, one of the city's four institutions for orphaned, illegitimate or abandoned girls. Every Sunday and Feast Day its great doors would be thrown open to the public for concerts given by the inmates — and Vivaldi wrote this grand-scale setting of part of the Catholic Mass for them. These days, the work is so popular it has almost become his "Fifth Season".

Collegium Musicum 90 under Richard Hickox has bagged two of the best sopranos for this sort of thing — Emma Kirkby and Tessa Bonner, whose close-harmony cooing in the duet *Laudamus* is quite delicious. The choruses are bright and appealing, although the string playing sometimes felt a little routine. I preferred The Sixteen's performance overall — lots of contrast, beautifully phrased and some thoughtful continuo accompaniments — and their alto soloist is wonderfully plummy. I enjoyed Nikolaus Harmoncourt's *Concentus Musicus* Wien with the Arnold Schoenberg Choir too, particularly their energetic opening *Gloria* and the beautifully played reedy oboe solo in the *Domine deus*.

If you like your Vivaldi big and buxom you could go for the New Philharmonia Chorus and Orchestra, under Riccardo Muti, with the full-bodied operatic voices of Teresa Berganza and Lucia Valentini-Terrani, although the balance at times makes the chorus sound strangely far away. The Choir of King's College, Cambridge, under David Willocks, also gives a moving and confident performance. Mind you, appealing though they are, there is a certain irony in using boys' voices in this work, one of the few examples of sacred Baroque music written specially for girls.

With this in mind my favourite performance, then, is the one given by the Taverner Choir and Players, directed by Andrew Parrott (Virgin Classics VC 7 5932-2 CD, only available through EMI's Special Import Service £15.99). They daringly dispense with male voices altogether, simply singing the tenor and bass parts up the octave, as might well have been done in Vivaldi's time.

The effect is quite startling. Warm, sensitive and full of spirit, they really do sound like "a choir of angels" — very exciting and very Vivaldi.

● To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO881, Forres, IV36 0BR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk

Next Sat on Radio 3 (11am): Dvorak's Ninth Symphony

EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES

THE TIMES Good University Guide

Only £9.99 including p&p

Choosing the right university has never been more important — or difficult. The Times Good University Guide 1999 is the authoritative guide for Britain's universities and tells you what you need to know to pick your way through the higher education maze.

THE BOOK FEATURES:

- The Times league table of universities
- The top universities by subject
- Entry requirements
- Full profiles of every university and every Oxbridge college
- University cities

Edited by John O'Leary, Education Editor of *The Times*, readers can buy a copy for £9.99 including p&p, saving £1 on the normal price of £10.99.

The Times Good University Guide

Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms/Other ()

Address _____

Postcode _____

Please send me _____ copies of The Times Good University Guide 1999, PO Box 25500, London NW7 3ZT. I enclose a cheque/PO(s) made payable to: The Times PT005

Value _____ Card No. _____

Please write name and address on back of all cheques

Or debit my MasterCard/Visa card no. _____

Print Name _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Send coupon and remittance to: The Times Good University Guide 1999, PO Box 25500, London NW7 3ZT. Allow 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. No claims for loss in transit can be made after 60 days. If dissatisfied, please return the book's within seven days for a full refund. The offer is subject to availability.

Please tick box if you do not wish to receive further details from The Times or companies approved by us. ☐

CREDIT CARD ORDERS ON 0870 1267 581

CHANGING TIMES

THEATRE

Aphra Behn staged...

Oroonoko flows again

THEATRE: Jeremy Kingston meets the writer who has adapted Aphra Behn's 17th-century novel for the RSC

Time was when voices of discontent were raised when ever black actors were given leading roles in productions of Shakespeare (*Othello* excepted) or other Jacobean or Restoration dramatists. Pedants (and I was one) pointed out that Macbeth's court was all white, and that if Prospero was white and Miranda black some questions should have been asked of Mrs Prospero. Oh, big joke.



'Aphra Behn's book provides the earliest popular account of the slave trade'

The pedants were ignored. Black actors played ever more demanding roles, and in the larger outfits, the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National, they remained with the company for months or years at a time. The importance of this is now obvious. While valuable work is done by all-black companies, actors who spend their working lives in them forfeit the experience of working on the classics with resident teachers and older actors and thus miss the chance of observing the styles, the tricks, the disciplines and all the rest of the procedures that go by the name of "theatrical tradition".

It is because the RSC has been at the forefront of what is awkwardly called colour-blind casting that

from tomorrow it is able to stage a new version of Aphra Behn's novel *Oroonoko* in Stratford. Published in 1688, the year before Behn's death at the age of about 48 (most events in her early life are far from certain), the book tells of a West African prince sold into slavery and transported to Surinam, at that time ruled by the English. Here his noble character impresses all who encounter him, including Behn herself, who follows the custom of novelists of the time in claiming that hers is an eyewitness account. After sundry adventures he leads a slave revolt, is captured by trickery and killed.

The book is an astonishing work for its period, holding up both the native Americans and the African slaves to admiration, exposing Christian hypocrisy and providing the earliest popular account of the slave trade.

A stage adaptation by her friend Thomas Southerne followed soon after her death, and a better one by David Garrick 50 years later, in both of which the black roles were of course taken by white actors.

These versions dealt only with Oroonoko's life in Surinam and ignored the account he gives of his



Nigerian-born playwright and novelist Biyi Bandele: "I'd not read Aphra Behn's book before and I was impressed by the sheer human vision this woman had"

previous life in a part of Africa that Behn calls Coromantien. So when the RSC director Greg Doran pointed out that the company now had a body of black actors with the ability to present a more authentic production, the decision was also made to restore these unused passages from the original text. The writer commissioned to make the new adaptation was the Nigerian-born playwright and novelist, Biyi Bandele.

We meet backstage at the Barbican. He has lived in Britain for much of the 1990s, having arrived here from Lagos with a British

Council grant and the play *Marching For Fausa* that would later be produced at the Royal Court. His adaptation of Chinua Achebe's novel *Things Fall Apart* has just been revived at Manchester's Library Theatre; he is working on a script for the performance arts company Told By An Idiot. Picador is publishing *The Street*, his latest novel, and *Oroonoko* is in rehearsal. Astonishingly, he is looking entirely calm.

"I'd not read the book before and I was impressed by the sheer human vision that this woman had.

At no point is she patronising about Oroonoko. But it took me a long time to find the stage language for it. Southerne managed to turn it into something like a Restoration comedy. David Garrick went to the other extreme and became very earnest. Then one morning I woke up and knew I had to do it in poetry."

His solution was bound up with the decision to resituate the African half of the play in Yorubaland (Bandele is a Yoruba). "I think Aphra Behn's Coromantien, which is in modern Ghana, is purely notional because all the characters' names

are recognisably Yoruba. I have invented almost everything that is said, though I have been faithful to the plot of her story. But I wrote it in poetry because I imagined the conversations happening in Yoruba, a highly rhetorical language. I felt that the best way to capture the poetry when translating it into English was to keep it as poetry."

"Nobody knows how Aphra Behn got hold of the story, but even if it had an historical reality it's more interesting to look at it as mythology. Because then it becomes clearer. Myths are more interesting

than history because where history is prose, myth is poetry, and poetry sometimes illuminates with very simple images. You have a kind of distillation of reality."

And so at the Other Place this week all the characters, black and white, prince, slave and plantation owner, will speak a heightened form of English. Behn herself wrote poetry. Biyi Bandele and the RSC are allowing her humane, poetic voice a hearing in the theatre once again.

● *Oroonoko* opens at the Other Place, Stratford (01789 295623) tomorrow

AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER

THE TIMES

easyJet FLIGHTS FROM £34 RETURN

50,000 SEATS AVAILABLE

10 EUROPEAN CITIES TO CHOOSE FROM

- Booking begins at NOON tomorrow
- Euro breaks: Nice £59 Athens £79 return
- UK breaks: £34 return from Scotland to London

Readers can take advantage of incredible offers on flights to ten European cities from just £34 return with easyJet. The fares, listed, are only available on the net. Simply collect ten differently numbered tokens, eight from *The Times* and two from *The Sunday Times*. Tokens will appear every day until Sunday, May 9, 1999. You can travel between May 4 and July 15 (some dates and flights are excluded, see terms and conditions on the Website). Details of how to book and the flights offer password will appear tomorrow. A bonus token will appear in *The Sunday Times* next Sunday. Attach the tokens to the booking validation form which will appear in *The Times* on Saturday. Readers over 18 can buy return flights for up to four people with just one complete set of tokens.

easyJet, the Web's favourite airline, has sold almost 300,000 seats via the internet and is currently achieving 95 per cent of sales online. More people now contact easyJet by internet than by telephone. Online bookings reduce costs by selling to customers via its Website and the consumer can consult prices on individual flights all for the cost of a local call.

Stelios Haji-Ioannou, the easyJet chairman, said, "easyJet is definitely the Web's favourite airline, providing an easier and more cost-efficient service to consumers. People seem to be quite at ease with the Internet so I am looking forward to opening the first of my chain of easyJet Everything Internet shops in June this year in Central London."



AT-A-GLANCE SPECIAL OFFER FARES GUIDE

DEPART FROM	DESTINATION	TIMES RETURN FARE INC. TAXES
London Luton	Edinburgh	£34
London Luton	Glasgow	£34
London Luton	Aberdeen	£34
London Luton	Belfast	£34
Scotland/Ireland	London	£34
London Luton/Liverpool	Geneva	£39
London Luton/Liverpool	Amsterdam	£49
London Luton	Zurich	£49
London Luton	Nice	£59
London Luton	Athens	£79

Fares from Scotland and Belfast to London Luton are also £34 return. Full terms and conditions, plus one-way flights available, at www.easyjet.com

CHANGING TIMES

Dance to this Spandau ballet

I took the American playwright Don Hood 12 years to research his new play about the relationship between Rudolf Hess and his guard through his last two decades in Spandau Prison. They were years well spent.

Receiving its world premiere at the New End Theatre, this is a sparely written, tautly constructed and quietly devastating piece. Hess was the deputy Führer of Germany until 1941, when he inadvertently bailed out of the war after his secret mission to broker a peace deal with British appeasers was discovered by Hitler. He was subsequently sentenced to life imprisonment at Nuremberg. For two decades

The Duck and the Nightingale
Hampstead

until his death, apparently by suicide, in 1987, this increasingly frail old ogre was notoriously Spandau's only inmate.

On the back of these much-exhumed bones, Hood fleshes out a complex and disquieting portrait of a deluded but compelling man. With almost no contact with the outside world, Hood's defiantly unrepentant Hess dreams of escaping to lead a Fourth Reich. He goes to sleep, he salutes. He addresses his beloved Hitler.

He should be wholly unpitiable, but Hood issues us with a challenge: is it possible to sympathise with someone who is beyond redemption? The answer — all the more arresting because so reluctantly arrived at — is yes. It is not just that Hood does not shrink from portraying Hess's penetrating intellect and perverted charm. It is that you have to admire his strength of spirit. At the start, he cleaves, fruitfully enough, to his sense of self-importance by playing non-stop mind-games on his captors. But when his put-on paranoia, madness and illness become the real thing, and when he gives up the fight, it is perversely moving.

Supporting this portrait is Hess's American guard Captain David Morgan, himself destined to remain at Spandau until Hess dies. Much of the play dramatises their first encounters in 1966. Prisoner and guard circle each other; Hess invariably prevails. Later, the years breed an uneasy equality. Nigel D. Hoyle is very good as Morgan, but Leonard Preston gives a quite electrifying performance as Hess. Its only faults are a snarling, spitting caricature of Hitler and the physical limitations of this tiny space. Otherwise, this is acted, staged and scripted with uncommon intelligence.

NIGEL CLIFF

Lorca takes flight

OPERA

The Nightingale's to Blame
Grand, Leeds

Simon Holt's first opera, premiered last November at the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, has now reached Opera North who co-commissioned it, and in the framework of a proscenium theatre, this *Nightingale* has found a little more room to spread its wings.

This is Holt's act of homage to his beloved Lorca. In the poet's centenary year. Fashioned from *The Love of Don Perlimpin for Belise in the Garden*, it is a true *folia in musica*, a fable of the elderly husband who has to learn about the delights of the body, while his new and voluptuous young wife must find the soul.

Just as Lorca's aphoristic play lives by parody — of character, of honour, of love — so Holt's score seems to be parodying almost every convention of Modernist musical language, even opera itself. And the extreme leaps and wild melismas of the vocal writing,

close tuned to the pungent palette of the 17 instrumentalists, also seems to me a canny recreation in sound of Lorca's verbal fusion of the lyrical and the grotesque. Perhaps the piece is working more cogently as drama now that it is run in: for I find myself liking it better than Rodney Milnes did at the Huddersfield premiere.

Certainly the music's slow uniformity of pace can be trying at times. It is not insignificant that Holt's *lourdes de force* occur in the moments of stasis: the tableau of the Don singing alone at night; the tiny instrumental ensembles; the elfin dance of the "Duende" spirits (Thora Einarsson and Amanda Boyd making welcome Opera North debuts).

But even this sense of music struggling through time seemed to me expressive of the frustration and the impotence felt by each character. Against Neil Irish's exquisitely lit sets — architectural cardboard cut-outs of Lorca line-drawings, weeping moon and all — Donald Maxwell as the Don droops and stutters through his fierce lines. Patricia Rozario exercises the entire range of her soprano in the yearning sensuality of her florid writing: Fiona Kimm scolds eloquently as the servant Marcolfa; and Frances McCafferty enjoys the rattle of her rapid, nagging repetitions. Miraculously, scarcely a word is lost. Martin Duncan's deft production moves on to York, with Richard Farnes conducting with no less legardmain.

HILARY FINCH

Spanish lessons in life

Domingo in Zarzuela
Barbican

P lácido Domingo set out on Sunday to prove, with a handful of Spanish colleagues and the Covent Garden orchestra, that zarzuela is not just a secret of Iberia. His parents both specialised in this form of operetta, so in part it was an act of remembrance of the songs they taught him. Only once did he have recourse to a score.

Zarzuela is often crudely referred to as Spain's answer to Gilbert and Sullivan. Domingo soon put the lie to that. The arias and duets chosen were mainly meaty slices of spurned or unrequited love, with the influence of Cilea and Mascagni audible just across the Mediterranean. Only one item, by Suotullo and Carbonelli, suggested the kind of music Lehár was composing in Vienna in the 1920s, when the zarzuela was at its height.

Everything came easily to Domingo, some might argue too easily. He was in burlesque voice, with the baritone qualities which have been

there since the earliest days on full display. Here was Cavardossi rekindled, not Nanki-Poo, as he provided the Barbican stage. All of which, Domingo made clear, showed that some of us in Central London knew roughly as much about zarzuela as they do of G & S in Plazatoro.

He had an outstanding partner in Ainhoa Arteta, a soprano who has been making a considerable name for herself in America. She has the haughty stance of a flamenco dancer and is not averse to a swing of the hips. The voice has a shimmering top to it and plenty of weight in the middle: a natural Musetta, a role she is shortly to sing at the Met. She started impressively with an aria by Curidi, and never looked back. Covent Garden, it is to be hoped, had its contracts at the stage door.

The mezzo, Cecilia Diaz, also making a company debut, took longer to warm up. She improved hugely as the evening moved on, using the smoky tones of the best Spanish mezzos in a soulful number by Chapi declaring eternal love. Miguel Roa was the dapper, energetic conductor. The ROH orchestra was on its mettle in generally unfamiliar music and Rosa egged them on their way, notably in three flashy overtures which showed that the zarzuela composers knew how to get their audience excited before the curtain went up. A generous helping of encores rounded off an exotic evening.

JOHN HIGGINS

The
Miga

Frances G

A

unequal

system

Leg

DIA

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

Private Eye

كندا من الأصل

LAW

THE WOOLF REFORMS

هكذا من الأصل

The revolution in litigation starts here

Fast-track customer-friendly justice is upon us, says Lord Woolf. Interview by Frances Gibb

A revolution takes place in the civil justice system this week. Out goes our traditional costly drawn-out system of litigation with lawyers indulging in trial by combat — a system epitomised in *Bleak House's* Jarndyce v Jarndyce. In comes a speedy, cost-sensitive system in which judges — not lawyers — set the pace of litigation and people are encouraged with financial incentives to settle before trial.

Lord Woolf, Master of the rolls and architect of the reforms, accepts that it may mean a rougher, readier justice, but for many more people. "For the simpler cases not involving large sums of money it will be a more robust system of justice," he says. "It's all right having a Rolls-Royce. It is worth using only for journeys for which it's suitable. Many cases need a bike."

For the consumer, the reforms should mean certainty about what they are in for if they pursue or defend a claim. Iain Golden, QC, barrister and visiting professor at Nottingham Law School, told a seminar last week led by Richards Butler, the law firm that the present system is like asking the cost of a train ticket from Edinburgh to King's Cross. "The woman behind the counter will say: 'I haven't the slightest idea.' You will reply: 'Why not, I am only going to King's Cross?' And she will say: 'Well, that's what you say, but we're not necessarily going to King's Cross. We might be going to Inverness, Dundee... we'd probably end up in Exeter... we might never arrive!'"

"Quite extraordinary that we have run this system for so long without question." As well as uncertainty, there can be disproportionate cost. Roger Parker, Richards Butler's head of litigation, cites a case which came to court four years after proceedings were issued. A sum of £3 million was at stake. After a 12-week trial, the case was settled, with costs of £2 million each. Mr Parker says: "Woolf will help to create a climate where you don't go into those cases unless you've tried to explore whether there's a way out." Andrew Hearn, head of litigation at Timms Sainer Dechert, adds that people will not be allowed to run up huge costs over

small sums. "The concept of proportionality is revolutionary and very exciting: it allows the court to treat each case as it thinks fit."

From this week, judges become trial managers, setting timetables for cases and imposing cost penalties for delay. They can summarily dismiss weak claims and order the parties to try mediation. Woe betide a lawyer, Mr Hearn says, who sits back and waits for his next deadline. He or she will face hefty costs.

Lawyers are understandably nervous about what is a complete culture change. Some claim that the preparation time has been inadequate; that the changes will just shift the costs of litigation to its early stages; or that injustices will occur from excessively proactive and speedy judges. But most think that the reforms will benefit the customer. Barry Warne, of Irwin Mitchell, the Sheffield law firm, cites a case of a building society which sought to repossess a woman's home. It took the woman, Hazel Archer, 12 years to defeat them and what started as a £20,000 claim against her ended with a legal bill for the society and her former lawyers, taken with the loss of the original loan, of £300,000. "Under Woolf," he says, "this case would have been settled or mediated, with huge time and cost savings."

Crucial to the reforms' success are the judges. Are they ready for their new role? They have undergone special training. But one deputy High Court judge recently told a litigator that the reforms "do not really change very much". The hope is that his view is a minority one. Lord Woolf points out that in the commercial court, judges are already leading the way, managing cases and encouraging parties to use other methods to settle disputes.

There is also concern about over-eager judges. Lawyers expect them to come down hard from the start, but Lord Woolf says the case will be flexible. Their new wide powers will make them liable to scrutiny and challenge. But Lord Woolf argues that all rulings will be subject to appeal. The Access to Justice Bill will also devolve many appeals on procedural points to lower courts, speeding up the appeals process: there will be a special Court of



Lord Woolf: "If the law gives a person a right, the law should be able to enforce that right"

Appeal fast track for procedural points; and the court will issue regular guidance.

Not all the reforms will be in place from day one. The computer back-up for judges, enabling them to manage cases on their laptops and with direct links with the court system, will not be there until next year at best. As a result, Lord Woolf says, the economies will not be made, and extra administrative staff have to be provided. But he is content, if not happy, that the technology should not be rushed. Secondly, the cap on legal fees chargeable in the fast track (which hears disputes of up to £15,000) will apply only to the trial itself, where a cap of £750 has been set for the three-hour hearings. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, is to consult on whether pre-trial costs should also be capped. The

limited cap will bring more certainty, but it is, Lord Woolf says, "half a cake rather than the whole".

The reforms are meant to make litigation easier. "The philosophy I have adopted," Lord Woolf argues, "is that if the law gives a person a right, it is only proper that the law should be able to enforce that right." But paradoxically, the upshot should be fewer trials. With hefty penalties for those who stall or unreasonably refuse to settle, people will have to settle earlier.

"We will see many disputes sorted out without the courts being bothered," he says. "It is a huge change. It really is the end of the majestic, expensive, disproportionate unequal system we have been living with for too long."

Lawpage@the-times.co.uk

How my small claim left me with a big bill

For minor disputes to be solved without lawyers, the procedure must be made simpler

From this week it should be easier and cheaper for people to use the courts. But the Woolf reforms are also aimed at encouraging people to sort out simple disputes without using lawyers at all. The idea is that more people should use the small claims court, which will now be able to hear claims of up to £5,000. Litigants will have to represent themselves because legal aid is not normally available for such cases.

In January 1996 the limit on small claims disputes was raised from £1,000 to £3,000. It is a measure of the Government's confidence in this route to justice that the limit is being raised by a further £2,000. Doubts, however, have been raised over the scheme's effectiveness. Government research has found that while some litigants benefit, others struggle with the complexity of the law and arrive at court poorly prepared. Many have had difficulty in enforcing judgments once obtained.

My own recent experience with the small claims court suggests that the courts, judges and solicitors have yet to embrace the culture change needed to make the process user-friendly. In my case, I decided to bring a small claim as a litigant-in-person without a legal qualification.

My claim was for £1,200 worth of damage caused to my car by a negligent driver, who, fortunately, had insurance. The insurance company's claims handlers did not contest liability, but they made me an offer that I considered too low. I went to my local county court, which accepted my claim against the insurance company without comment, along with a fee of £80.

I looked forward to putting my case at an informal hearing before a district judge. That was my first mistake. It turned out that I should not have sued the insurance company, but the driver. This is a mere technicality, because in any case the insurer has to be sent a copy of the summons, and his solicitors take responsibility for dealing with it.

Instead of simply pointing this out to me, the solicitors served a "defence" to my claim, accusing me of being "trivolous" and of "abuse of process". They also applied to the court for the

cost of drafting the defence. I needed legal advice. Acting on it, I discontinued the case and issued fresh proceedings, this time against the driver.

Surely, I thought, at the forthcoming costs hearing the judge would accept my argument that the solicitors' defence, though powerful, was pointless since I could never have succeeded in suing their client. Instead, I would argue, the solicitors should have written to tell me that I was pursuing a hopeless case. After all, having seen the details of my claim, they could have been in no doubt of what I was trying to do, and, as solicitors for the insurers, they had to deal with the claim anyway. Confident that the judge would right this wrong, I rejected an offer from the solicitors to settle the costs bill for £55 and gave notice that I would defend the application in person.

That was my second mistake. By the time of the costs hearing, the solicitors' bill had inflated to £465. At the hearing, the judge had little sympathy for a misguided layperson. "Of course," the judge concluded, "the solicitors had a right to issue a defence on behalf of their client." When I protested, he said: "Litigants name the wrong defendant at their peril." Though my spirits were lifted when the judge described the solicitors' claim for 90 minutes of barrister's time as "absurd", by the end of the hearing I found myself owing the insurance company £180.88 and the merits of my claim for damages had not even been heard.

Still reeling from this unhappy experience, I suggest three reforms consistent with the new legal climate that the Woolf reforms seek to engender. First, claims issued by litigants-in-person should be assessed for technical accuracy when they are deposited with court officials. Secondly, solicitors should be obliged to consider the interests of a litigant-in-person before seeking shelter behind technicalities and clocking up fee-earner time. Thirdly, judges should show greater imagination in protecting the interests of litigants-in-person. As Lord Woolf said: "The court has got to take on responsibility, clearly as part of its duties, to lend help to the litigant who needs it."



DAN BINDMAN

It really is the end of the old expensive, unequal system'

Legal DIARY

WAR finally broke out this week between the Lord Chancellor and the Law Society over legal aid cuts after months of niceties. With MPs due this week to debate the Access to Justice Bill, Lord Irvine of Lairg erupted over the society's advertising campaign — to highlight vulnerable groups it says will be hit by the cuts.

Yesterday the society hit back. Lord Irvine was wrong, it said, to accuse it of "not telling the truth". The society called for guarantees in the Bill to protect vulnerable groups. A senior Law Society official said: "We have him on the run." Lord Irvine told Radio 4 that the society would be better off improving the appalling delays in its complaints system.

Jan Hislop, the Editor of *Private Eye*, will be stepping into the lion's den later this year. He is to appear at the Law Society annual conference in Paris this October. Not known for his love of lawyers, Mr Hislop has been persuaded by the conference's organiser, Mark Stephens of Stephens Innocent, to appear with

Geoffrey Robertson, QC, and Peter Carter-Ruck in a session on media law.

More than half the UK's law students (57 per cent) think their ethnic origin will affect their careers, says a survey by *Lex*, the law students' magazine. Thirty-seven per cent also think that women are discriminated against in law firms and 58 per cent believe that is also true of the Bar.

Cabrin Griffiths, the Editor of *Lex*, says: "This shows that the profession has a long way to go before it shakes off its reactionary, negative image. Otherwise it will continue to lose first-rate law students to other careers, such as the City."

It is Sir Richard Scott, Lord Woolf's colleague, who has to make the civil justice reforms work. His comments are blunt on the lack of computer technology, he says in this month's *Counsel* magazine that it is a "major regret" that judges won't have the full IT they need. But judges, he acknowledges, are ready for the change. As for everyone else, he

ventures: "I trust there are none still wandering around the saddling enclosure."

Top moves: John Higham, QC, a leading insolvency silk, is joining the City law firm Stephenson Harwood to develop its in-house advisory services. And Michael Napier, senior partner of Irwin Mitchell, is to stand again for office at the Law Society. He will go for deputy vice-president after a narrow defeat last year in the fight for President.

No surprise that the Chancery judges are first off the mark with a new guide on the Woolf rules and how to manage cases, edited by Mrs Justice Arden. From district registries and the Chancery Division website: www.courtserve.gov.uk/high-home.htm

The abstract artist Kandinsky, some of whose works are on show at the Royal Academy until July 4, was also a lawyer-academic specialising in employment law. But after seeing an Impressionist exhibition, he abandoned law to train as an artist.

Law kept its hold on him, however, and he always painted in a suit.



Assistant Legal Counsel, Europe
Northamptonshire, European HQ
'Delivering the Promise'

Part of Cendant, the world's premier provider of consumer and business services, including such brands as PHH, Green Flag and NCP, RCI is the world's largest provider of vacation exchange opportunities. Founded in 1974, Resort Condominiums International pioneered the concept of vacation exchange and is now a truly global operation which handles the holiday and travel arrangements for over 6.5 million people world-wide each year.

In view of an expanding workload, an excellent opportunity has arisen for a dynamic lawyer to join the European legal team providing legal advice and support on all aspects of corporate/commercial legal work for RCI's operations across the Europe, Middle East, Africa and India business region. This will involve a wide range of work including drafting and negotiating a broad range of commercial contracts, advising on regulatory issues arising from RCI's travel business, monitoring use of RCI's trade marks and other intellectual property, assisting with company secretarial/compliance matters and advising on and assisting with any employment and property law issues, as required.

This role will suit a UK qualified solicitor or barrister with between 2 and 4 years post qualification experience, gained either in house or in private practice. Solid general commercial experience is key, particularly commercial contracts, joint ventures, intellectual property and IT. Experience of travel law would be advantageous, though not a prerequisite. The successful candidate must have a flexible approach and the ability to deal with an unpredictable workload and whilst technical expertise is essential, a sense of humour and commercial flair are also vital qualities. Language skills would be a bonus, given the pan-European nature of this role.

If you are interested in applying for this position or would like any further information, please contact our advising consultant Rachael North who is dealing with this assignment exclusively.

See www.rci.com for further information on RCI.

LAURENCE SIMONS
International Legal Recruitment
Professional, Proactive and Personal

Craven House, 121 Kingsway, London WC2B 6PA, Tel + 44 (0)171 831 3270, Fax + 44 (0)171 831 4429
Evenings (after 7pm)/Weekends Tel +44 (0)181 444 8737
E-mail: rachael@laurencesimons.demon.co.uk

QUEEN'S COUNSEL

Stewart & Francis



LEGAL ADVISOR

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders Ltd is the leading motor industry trade association.

SMMT legal services assist in delivering SMMT activities focused to encourage and promote the interests of the industry in the UK and abroad.

The legal work includes interpreting legislation affecting the industry, representing the industry's views to UK government and Brussels, advising member companies and providing support to develop SMMT commercial activities.

Applications are invited for a new one year contract position, from Solicitors or Barristers with keen drafting skills, ability to research complex subjects and an interest in competition issues.

Reply by Friday 7 May 1999 with CV and salary expectations to: Elaine Baker, SMMT Ltd, Forbes House, Halkin Street, London, SW1X 7DS.

The UK's professional body for musicians seeks a HEAD OF LEGAL & GENERAL SERVICES to join its 10-strong Head Office team.

The task: to deliver legal & business advice to the Society's members, handle casework, provide in-house expertise, and represent the ISM in negotiations & discussions on Rights, IP etc. The person: responsible, mature outlook; flexible, self-sufficient approach; sympathetic to classical musicians. Legal training & computer literacy desirable. The salary: not less than £26K.

Applications, with CVs, to Neil Hoyle, Chief Executive, Incorporated Society of Musicians, 10 Stratford Place, London W1N 9AE, by 7 May. Tel: 0171 629 4413 Fax: 0171 408 1538.

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

Viatel

GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS

Regulatory Affairs Adviser

London, SW1

Headquartered in New York and NASDAQ listed, Viatel is a facilities-based, global provider of telecommunications services. It offers national and international long-distance services primarily to small and medium sized businesses, carriers and resellers in over 230 countries and territories world-wide.

Viatel is investing heavily in expanding its market presence and services throughout Western Europe and is currently building the Circe Pan-European Network, a next generation broadband fibre infrastructure that will link over 30 major cities in Europe. In light of this dynamic period of expansion an exciting new opportunity has arisen for a Regulatory Affairs Adviser to join its regulatory team based in London.

Reporting to the Director of European Regulatory Affairs, you will be working as part of a small but strategically focused team. You will be responsible for a variety of matters including handling interconnect agreements, monitoring regulatory developments within the UK and Ireland, attending industry working groups, managing number ranges and providing reports and audits to the regulatory authorities.

This challenging position will suit a solicitor or barrister, between 1 and 3 years qualified, with telecommunications, regulatory and/or EU competition law experience. In addition to technical expertise, the successful candidate will be a team player, with a professional approach, a lively personality and a sense of humour.

If you are interested in applying for this position or would like any further information, please contact our advising consultant Rachael North who is handling this assignment exclusively.

See <http://www.viatel.com> or <http://www.circe.net> for further information on Viatel



LAURENCE SIMONS
International Legal Recruitment
Professional, Proactive and Personal

Craven House, 121 Kingsway, London WC2B 6PA, Tel +44 (0)171 831 3270, Fax +44 (0)171 831 4429

Evenings (after 7pm)/Weekends Tel: +44 (0)181 444 8737

E-mail: rachael@laurencesimons.demon.co.uk

construction lawyer

west midlands

to £60,000 + benefits

Our client is one of Europe's largest construction services groups with international operations. They are a leading player in the private finance initiative and have earned an enviable reputation.

The group is firmly focused on the future with a strategy for the new millennium to enhance the group's status and performance based on high customer satisfaction and innovation. This environment of continuous improvement forms an exceptional backdrop for an outstanding candidate.

As Senior Legal Advisor, you will be responsible for legal matters arising within the engineering and construction fields. This work includes the execution of large complex projects in infrastructure, heavy civils, water and process sectors.

The successful candidate will have:

- At least five years' ppe of construction law gained in a predominantly non contentious environment at a top in-house department or leading law firm.
- Exposure to major civil engineering projects such as roads, rail, water treatment plants, petrochemicals and power stations.
- A confident and commercially minded approach to thrive within a talented peer group.
- Ability to operate successfully at Board level.

If you would like to find out more about this exciting opportunity please telephone or send your cv to our advising consultant, James Thomas at Hays Richard Owen, Kingsway House, 103 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6GQ. Tel: 0171 430 2349, fax: 0171 831 2536. eves: 01273 694385. e-mail: legal@hays-richardowen.co.uk.

Hays Richard Owen

CORPORATE FINANCE

Successful niche firm through with a number of core strengths seeks to add an additional partner with significant Yellow Book and Blue Book experience to its existing team. The existing partners' practices are developing, as a result of client demands, away from mainstream and there is therefore an obvious gap to add to current strengths. (Ref. 26491)

BRUSSELS COMP

The Brussels office of this Top 10 firm is looking to add junior lawyers to assist on a range of top quality work. Looking across the board at the 1-5 ppe level for candidates with excellent academic and practical backgrounds in EC/Competition law with a desire to relocate to Brussels. Fantastic prospects. (Ref. 26447)

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Well regarded, multi-disciplinary financial services group looking to add breadth and depth to its current practice by recruiting a 4-5 ppe assistant with experience in this area. Ideally this should include offshore funds, compliance, derivatives contracts and global custody banking. (Ref. 26454)

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Pre-eminent property practice looking for senior assistants to do mainstream high profile development, funding, purchase and joint venture transactions. Ideally at 4-6 years ppe the role will involve acting on high value matters, working with partners on major transactions and managing a number of junior fee earners as necessary. Impressive client list and great career opportunity. (Ref. 26487)

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

An opportunity for a 5-6 ppe IP assistant (possibly with a media or IT background) to work with one of the highest profile IP groups in London. A full range of contentious and non-contentious IP work, generally on the soft side is available for self-starting, commercially aware lawyers. (Ref. 26487)

SPARKNER

Asset finance/leasing lawyers with 1-6 ppe required by this dynamic practice to deal with all aspects of asset financing and leasing, both domestic and cross border. Also encompassing structured finance deals. Ideally people with relevant experience are required, but very strong candidates from other disciplines may be considered for re-training. (Ref. 26487)

PROJECT FINANCE

This leading US firm currently seeks an outstanding project finance assistant with 1-4 years' ppe. Handling transactions of the highest calibre, the successful candidate will possess excellent technical skills and be capable of assuming early responsibility for a diverse range of international matters. An opportunity not to be missed. (Ref. 19813)

EMPLOYMENT

This highly regarded City firm is looking to expand its employment and pensions unit. The successful applicant will be 2-4 ppe and do pure employment law with a 50/50 split between contentious and non-contentious work. Clients are predominantly employers and many are financial institutions. (Ref. 26411)

LITIGATION

One of the undisputed market-leaders in litigation (traditionally) has openings in some of its groups. The ideal candidates will have 2-4 years' ppe in mainstream commercial litigation, with perhaps an emphasis on areas such as professional negligence, fraud, defamation, international arbitration, energy or entertainment. (Ref. 26449)

CORPORATE

This premier City firm seeks top quality, team players with excellent training/experience in M&A and corporate finance (including Spec'99 Npl) who have real drive and enthusiasm for this area of law. You can expect full involvement in truly impressive work and unrivalled career prospects. (Ref. 16110)

TO £70,000

STOP CITY +

TO £55,000

FROM £40,000

FROM £35,000

ZMB

ZARAK RECRUITMENT

THE ZARAK GROUP

IT Contracts Specialist

c.1 - 3 yrs' ppe

Our client is the fastest-growing specialist supplier of software solutions and services to the global insurance market. It has once more achieved record preliminary results with pre-tax profits up by 78%, leading to a prestigious nomination for Company of the Year in the PLC Awards 1998.

As a result of such spectacular growth, an additional lawyer with c.1-3 yrs' ppe with relevant IT experience is required to work directly for the Head of the Legal Department. The successful candidate will be closely involved in working on projects in the US, in addition to drafting and negotiating standard and bespoke IT contracts and providing general commercial advice to the highest level of management on legal matters affecting the company.

From either private practice or industry, candidates must be confident and charismatic, with a high-level of commercial awareness. There will be an opportunity to travel regularly to the States, which could ultimately lead to relocation.

For further information, call our exclusively retained consultant, Tim Greenland, at PSD Reuter Simkin. Alternatively send your CV with covering letter to the address/fax number below, quoting reference 41639.

PSD

PSD Reuter Simkin
28 Essex Street
London WC2R 3AT
Telephone 0171 970 9636
Facsimile 0171 936 3978
E-mail lichtg@psdgroup.com
Internet www.psdgroup.com

Europe Asia North America



PSD Reuter Simkin

Legal Recruitment

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

"Circuit Bored?"

assess

regulatory analyst

central london

from £30,000 + benefits

Orange is one of the most dynamic and fastest growing companies in the UK. Today more than 2.5 million people subscribe to our wireless services and the Orange network covers over 98% of the UK population.

Given our emphasis on technological innovation and our determination to outperform the rest of the industry in terms of service standards, the management of our relationships with regulatory authorities is key to the continued success of our business.

As the Regulatory Analyst you will assess the impact of industry developments and take responsibility for representing Orange's position with regards to consumer issues and licensing, ensuring compliance with our operating licence and monitoring issue of licences to other operators. The position involves close contact with Ofcom, the DTI and other Government departments, co-ordinating our responses to consultation documents, as well as ensuring senior management are fully briefed on industry developments.

This position is ideal for a law graduate with two to four years' experience, not necessarily gained in the telecoms sector. Above all you must be able to interpret complex commercial documents, identify relevant issues that affect our business and propose solutions. You will be skilled at structuring and conveying convincing verbal and written arguments.

For further information please contact our advising consultant, Melvin Day at Marketing Moves on 01932 253352. Alternatively, send, fax or email your CV to him at Marketing Moves, Romulus House, Church Road, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 9JT, fax 01932 228886, email mday@marketingmoves.com

orange

Banking & finance lawyers

Global investment bank
Trading floor lawyer

Our client is a first class global leader in investment banking with an integrated worldwide network of more than 30 offices and a particular strength in Europe.

It has developed an extensive business in equity-related securities and a further lawyer is sought to support these leading business teams, taking an active part in their day to day activity from origination to settlement. They specialise in the provision of funding to the bank's customers and secured financing for the bank, so suitable candidates could have a background in capital markets/derivatives, corporate finance or banking (18 months+) as training will be given. This is a perfect springboard into investment banking.

European investment house
Paralegal - general banking

Highly respected and integrated global financial entity provides clear solutions to institutions and corporates with multiple and complex investment banking and corporate needs.

The legal function now seeks an ambitious paralegal, to review, assess and oversee various kinds of credit securities for bilateral and syndicated loan agreements for the entire scope of transactions from simple loans to complicated structured financings. In addition the successful candidate will be required to review and administer a wide range of insurance documents encompassing ship, aircraft and property agreements and report the results to the specialised front office departments. Applicants must have 6 months' relevant experience.

European banking institution
Company commercial counsel

Our client is a major European banking group with significant corporate and retail banking capabilities.

The Group General Counsel's Office seeks an additional member to assist in identifying and managing legal risk for the entire organisation and to provide legal advice to senior management on significant group issues. The workload is incredibly broad ranging from large corporate transactions involving Yellow Book implications to important, yet more general commercial issues. The ideal candidate will be a 3-5 years' qualified company/commercial lawyer who would relish the opportunity to handle consistently challenging and interesting work within a leading household name.

23 Long Lane, London EC1A 9HL
0171 606 8944 Fax: 600 1793
banking@chambersrecruitment.co.uk

CHAMBERS
BANKING & FINANCE

We recruit lawyers into banks and other financial institutions. Please contact Deborah Kirkman or Stuart Morton.

Insurance Litigator



A rare
in-house
opportunity

Bromley, Kent

c. £40k + car &
benefits

For further details, in complete confidence, please contact either Helen McAtamney or Struan Hall our retained consultants at Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Tel: 0171 430 1711. Fax: 0171 831 4186. E-mail: gg@netcomuk.co.uk This assignment is being handled exclusively by GG&Y. All direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them.

GG
GRAHAM GILL & YOUNG

0171 430 1711

Company S

Grou

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Strategic role for
an exceptional
Commercial/IP
lawyer

Oxford

Generous
package

For further details in complete confidence,
contact Helen McAtamney or Struan Hall at
Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London
WC2B 6EN. Tel: 0171 430 1711. Fax: 0171 831 4186.
E-mail: gg@netcomuk.co.uk



Vivienne Duffy with her children receiving her late husband Peter's Lawyer of the Year award from the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, at 11 Downing Street

Crusader for human rights

Peter Duffy, QC, who died of cancer last month at the age of 44, never sought recognition for himself; he was more concerned about winning it for others. So it is not surprising that, in the recent batch of awards for human rights work, it was he who had nominated the winners. The full recognition he so much deserved was finally forthcoming when — on the strength of a host of nominations — he was named last week as *The Times*/Justice Lawyer of the Year.

Anne Owens, the director of Justice, who presented the award to Duffy's wife Vivienne, and daughters Clare, Helen and Sarah at a reception at 11 Downing Street, said his death was a huge loss to the UK legal community. Most of his cases were milestones in human rights: Gypsies, asylum-seekers, gay rights, Diane Blood and the Pinochet appeal in which he appeared for Amnesty International. He died before judgment was given.

Ms Owens paid tribute to Mr Duffy's talent for translating dry legal instructions into an argument that captured the inherent unfair-

Peter Duffy has finally won the kind of recognition he so often sought for others, says Frances Gibb

TIMES/JUSTICE LAW AWARDS

ness in a case and which could appeal to a judge's sense of justice; for his support of young lawyers, and "abiding dislike" of discrimination against minorities and the vulnerable. "Tragically, he will not be there to argue a case on day one of the Human Rights Act," she said.

The judging panel — which included Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls; Robert Ayling, the chairman of British Airways; the MP Chris Mullin; and Ms Owens — also decided that a special award should go to another lawyer, Rosemary Nelson, who was murdered in Belfast in March.

In nominating her, the Belfast-based Committee on the Administration of Justice stated that she represented the "very best of the legal profession, defending her clients, regardless of their alleged crimes and to the very best of her ability". That

commitment had led directly to her murder, the nomination said. "It would have been safer to stick to non-controversial cases and to pick and choose who came to her for help," it added, "but that was not Nelson's concept of justice."

A United Nations principle states that lawyers should not be identified with their clients or their clients' causes as a result of discharging their functions. The committee said: "Rosemary Nelson paid the highest possible price when this principle was disregarded; lawyers must honour her memory."

The Young Lawyer of the Year award went jointly to Saal Leiffré and Farvaiz Jabbar, who have worked at Simons Muirhead & Burton for many years on death

row cases. Edward Fitzgerald, QC, Lawyer of the Year in 1998, singled out in his nomination "their passion and commitment to those facing execution, their humanity in dealing with their clients, their effectiveness in saving lives and extending the rights of those on death row."

The pair worked full-time on the death row cases, often unpaid and at the expense of their own careers as conventional lawyers, he said. "Young though they are, they handle a caseload of some 80 people and handle their clients' cases before the Privy Council, international human rights bodies and often at an appellate level in domestic jurisdictions in the Caribbean."

Mr Fitzgerald added that despite working against the clock and with the ever-present threat of execution hanging over their clients, they were always positive, inspiring all

barristers they briefed. They had impressive results, winning many appeals and frequently saving lives, he said.

The award for the organisation that had done the most to widen access to justice went to the Environmental Law Foundation. It has helped community groups and individuals in more than 800 cases, using a network of lawyers working largely for free.

The foundation, chaired by Martin Polden and run by Maria Adebawale, is the only national charity providing local sources of expertise on the environment. It plans to set up a chain of "surgeries" throughout the country.

Dan Brennan, QC, Chairman of the Bar Council, said: "Many of the individuals and groups the foundation has worked with are disadvantaged economically and socially, from rural and urban areas. They have few sources of information. They cannot afford expensive specialist help."

The awards, in their second year, were presented by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, who praised the work of Justice as the "legal conscience of the nation".

Firms make a hasty retreat from war zone

Lawyers are casualties of the Balkans crisis. Edward Fennell reports

Western lawyers do not come high on the list of casualties of the Nato war in Yugoslavia — but in a business sense they are in there somewhere. The law firm with the most to lose is probably the City solicitors Denton Hall. Mark Harrison, a former Eversheds lawyer, has been in Belgrade working for the Serbian and Macedonian Governments on privatisation and regulation.

Will Hulbert, a spokesman for the firm, said this week that such work had been "put on hold". Mr Harrison has left Belgrade. Interviewed in Sofia last week, he was understandably cagey about the work he has been doing for the Serbs. Mr Hulbert said that the firm was "playing its cards close to its chest", although Elizabeth Rantzen, its business development manager, admitted that Mr Harrison and Blanche Sas (an expert on pipeline deals), of the firm's Brussels office, were "very close to the Establishment" in Belgrade.

Denton Hall is not alone in its interest in the Balkans. In 1996, when Eversheds still employed Mr Harrison, the firm joined a trade delegation to Serbia to look for investment opportunities. Mr Harrison said at the time that he expected Eversheds to play a big part in the reconstruction process and spoke enthusiastically about the potential of Montenegro's tourism industry. Now those views look like wishful thinking. Even so, Mr Harrison persisted with his ambitions for work in Yugoslavia. Eversheds management, however, did not share his vision and he joined Denton Hall.

Eversheds, though, has not entirely abandoned interest in the area. The firm has just appoint-

ed Francis Chubb, a former army officer who has worked with Nato's forces in Bosnia, to join the offices of Georgiev, Todorov & Co, the Sofia firm with which it has an exclusive relationship. According to Alan Jenkins, who masterminded the Eversheds international policy, this is a first step towards a possible office in the country. Mr Chubb and Mr Harrison may, with any luck, have the opportunity of enjoying Sofia's nightlife together. Bulgaria, like Hungary and Romania, is under EU pressure to cut fuel supply lines to Yugoslavia. As potential EU members, the "frontline states" are expected to conform to new European legislation being enacted this week.

Istvan Recicza, a lawyer with White & Case in Budapest, said last week that Hungary's recent accession to Nato has given assurance to Western investors that they will be safe, no matter what happens over the border. White & Case is acting for the Hungarian Government over the licensing of a new mobile phone service. Mr Recicza says: "We have been astonished by the quality and scale of the bids. BT, Orange, Telecom Italia and many other leading companies want to invest in the project and seem undeterred by developments in Yugoslavia."

So despite the war, business goes on. Michael Dark, who runs Taylor Joynson Garrett's Bucharest office, reports that one of his transactions has fallen through because of the problems on the Danube. "But aside from that, we have not been affected," he says. "Local business people, however, tell me that the war is costing Romania millions of dollars in lost business; and that is likely to create a terrible insurance mess."

Company Secretary

London

Budgens Plc is a high quality food retailer with an outstanding record of growth and profitability over the last few years, their aim is to provide fresh food, friendly staff and value for money in small/medium sized local stores. It is their intention to continue this expansion and develop the business further.

With this future growth in mind they now wish to recruit a Company Secretary/Legal Adviser to work closely with and

support the main plc board in all their activities and to provide and manage the provision of legal services to the Group. In addition you will also sit on the board of the main operating subsidiary.

Areas of responsibility will be diverse and include attendance at and servicing of board meetings, ensuring compliance with the "Yellow Book", filing of statutory returns, negotiation and drafting of contracts and advising on

regulatory issues affecting the operation of the business. In conjunction with external advisers you will also be involved in licensing and commercial property matters.

The successful candidate will be a qualified Solicitor with a number of years' experience who enjoys being involved at operational level and takes a pro-active and hands-on approach to their work. Whilst a number of duties are essential, the parameters of the role can be re-defined by

the individual. This is a senior, high profile role within the organisation and will suit a candidate who has the ability and desire to influence and achieve.

Based in Ruislip, to the West of London, the company can be reached via the Central Line or main line from Marylebone. A generous package is offered including car, private health, pension and full relocation package.

For further details regarding this vacancy please contact Fiona Boxall or Jane Wallace.

23 Long Lane, London EC1A 9HL. Tel: 0171 606 8844 Fax: 0171 600 1793 e-mail: cosec@chambersrecruitment.co.uk

CHAMBERS
PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

BUDGENS

Take a fresh look at Budgens

Group Lawyer

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Strategic role for
an exceptional
Commercial/IP
lawyer

Oxford

Generous
package

Oxford University Press is the world's largest university press, with a turnover of around £300 million and a presence in more than 50 countries. It employs 3,700 people across the world and its UK business alone publishes some 3,000 titles each year.

The Press is now looking for a heavyweight commercial/IP lawyer to join its senior management team as Group Lawyer with responsibility for legal affairs on a worldwide basis.

This is a key appointment where anticipating and managing change, and devising strategies accordingly, are essential. Core areas of responsibility include overseeing publishing contracts, licences and distribution agreements; maintaining legal procedures and controls; managing the trademark portfolio; guarding the integrity of the Press's global legal structure; and directing the work of the in-house legal department.

To succeed in this role you will need to be an established commercial/IP lawyer with solid professional and commercial post-qualification experience, keen business instincts, cultural sensitivity, and the proven ability to be effective at board level.

This is an outstanding opportunity for a first class lawyer to play a decisive role in a unique international business. A generous salary and full benefits package is on offer, including assistance with relocation where appropriate.

For further details, in complete confidence, please contact either Helen McAtamney or Struan Hall at Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Tel: 0171 430 1711. Fax: 0171 831 4186. E-mail: ggy@netcomuk.co.uk This assignment is being handled exclusively by GG&Y. Direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them.

GG
GRAHAM GILL & YOUNG

0171 430 1711

family law partner / team

- can your firm boast a leading family law team in the magic circle? our client can
- will your firm commit to the continued development of its family practice? our client will
- does your firm handle ground-breaking work of the highest quality? our client does
- has your firm a friendly, progressive and team-oriented culture? our client has
- interested? our client is



To find out more, contact Jane Glassberg at
Hughes-Castell, 87 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1BD
Tel: 0171-242 0303, fax 0171-242 7111

Commercial/I.P. Lawyers

Bedford & Merseyside

Unilever is one of the world's largest and most successful international businesses. With more than five hundred operating companies across the globe, it aims to meet the everyday needs of people everywhere with a diverse range of consumer products. Operating in highly competitive markets, the constant innovation of new products and processes is vital to Unilever's success and this is reflected in annual expenditure on research & development in excess of £550 million.

In order to support Unilever's continued growth, two opportunities have now been created for experienced commercial / intellectual property lawyers to be based at Unilever's main UK research centres in Sharnbrook, Bedford and The Wirral, Merseyside.

The roles will involve negotiating, drafting and advising on a wide range of agreements. These will include: consultancy, technology transfer, joint research, consortium, collaboration, sponsored/contract research and confidentiality agreements.

Candidates must have a pragmatic, solutions orientated approach and will possess a level of experience that will allow them to operate autonomously. The ability to communicate clearly with technical and commercial colleagues is essential and a background in chemistry or Biosciences would be a distinct advantage. Applications are welcomed from those without a formal legal qualification who possess the required experience.

The successful candidates can look forward to excellent long term prospects in an environment where intellectual property enjoys a high profile. An attractive salary package including a fully expensed and generous benefits package is on offer. The role will involve some travel.



Unilever

For further details contact **Struan Hall** or **Helen McAtamney** at **Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Tel: 0171 430 1711. E-mail: ggy@netcomuk.co.uk Fax: 0171 831 4186.** This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis by Graham Gill & Young.



GRAHAM GILL & YOUNG

0171 430 1711

MAY MAY MEAN MORE MONEY

FOUNDING PARTNERS - Tax, Banking and Corporate

To £500,000
This leading German firm is in the process of setting up a practice in London. This is a progressive firm and will provide outstanding opportunities for those who become its founding partners. The firm is particularly interested in talking to partners with a following in tax, banking and corporate who can demonstrate clear practice building skills. Ref: T46018

INSURANCE LITIGATOR

To £100,000
You will have ideally 4 to 8 years' experience with a dynamic personality to join this US firm in London. They lead the way in this area back home and you will be amazed at the number of high profile cases they handle. Beautiful offices and lively atmosphere with partnership prospects too. Ref: T26227

EMPLOYMENT

To £53,000
With a top notch corporate client base including a number of major financial institutions, this top 20 firm has an employment workload which is the envy of many of its competitors. The firm is now looking to add an employment specialist with between 2 and 4 years' experience to undertake a mixture of contentious and non-contentious matters. Ref: T19786

CORPORATE

To £30,000
This magic circle firm has gone from strength to strength over the last few years and developed a very successful international network. Its corporate department is one of the truly great blue chip operations and regularly tops the league tables. Opportunities for 1-6 year qualified high calibre corporate lawyers abound. Ref: T12381

PROPERTY

To £70,000
This firm has one of the leading property reputations of any firm in London. It regularly works on the highest profile deals and now seeks a number of 2-4 year qualified commercial property lawyers. The work will be extremely diverse working with some of the leading property clients in the country. Excellent financial rewards and good partnership prospects. Ref: T15483

BANKING

To £85,000 +
This leading top twenty practice has an unparalleled reputation in the corporate sphere and is seeking to grow its banking practice along similar lines. It therefore represents an excellent opportunity for a senior assistant at one of the top five banking firms seeking a leg up to partnership in a very profitable environment. Top quality work - top quality pay. Ref: T4274

FUNDS

To £90,000
This practice has quickly risen up the rankings in the funds and financial services sphere. Acting for a range of funds and investment management companies in international work of the very highest quality. You will join a team serving both UK and US funds houses working with highly ranked practitioners in their field. Opportunity for much responsibility, autonomy and strong partnership prospects for assistance at all levels. Ref: T30632

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

To £75,000
An increasing volume of high quality work means this international practice needs an employee benefits/employee schemes lawyer with 2+ years' experience for the team. The future can provide a head of team role to the right person. A strong interest in this area is pre-requisite. Ref: T26255

FINANCE - CAYMAN ISLANDS

Excellent
Why not put your company commercial/corporate finance experience to good use whilst basking in the delights of life in the Cayman Islands high levels of pay and low rates of tax? Offshore experience is not as essential as 3-5 years' high-flying corporate/commercial experience and the personality to match. Ref: T26258

PROPERTY/PROPERTY FINANCE

To £55,000
Property lawyers with an interest/expertise in property finance will certainly be interested in this top ten firm. To work in such a dynamic area in a long established City firm - what could be better? If you have 2-4 years' property experience and are looking to broaden your experience this could be the one. Ref: T22423

CORPORATE

To £90,000
This City partner firm is clearly going places. It has an excellent corporate practice covering a wide variety of yellow book work and private M&A. If you are between 1-5 years qualified and are keen to work in a smaller environment but still do big ticket work then this could be the ideal opportunity for you. Ref: T57621

PROJECT FINANCE

To £70,000
This leading Canadian firm has an excellent project finance practice. The work is of an entirely international nature, working for blue chip organisations. If you are a project finance lawyer with 2-3 years' post qualification experience you must consider this opportunity. You get a big firm name, a small entrepreneurial environment and a top salary. Ref: T8255

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Sarah David, Greg Abrahamson or Nick Shilton (all qualified lawyers) on 0171 435 6082 (0181 562 0723 or 0171 435 4983 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD Legal.
e-mail: david@qdggroup.co.uk
shilton@qdggroup.co.uk

QD Legal

37-41 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4JH

Tel: 0171 405 6082

Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394

Web: www.qdggroup.com

London
Birmingham
Bristol
Leeds
Manchester
Paris
Frankfurt
Köln
Rotterdam



QD
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

OUR INCENTIVES ARE YOUR INCENTIVES.

LAWYERS - EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LONDON

More and more leading companies in the UK and elsewhere are moving towards employee share schemes as a means of attracting, retaining and motivating their employees. As acknowledged experts in this field, our Employee Benefits Group is working with many of these organisations to roll out large-scale employee share schemes, increasingly on an international basis; and as mergers and acquisitions continue to grip global exchanges, we are also constantly involved in high-profile, complex (and often cross-border) deals.

We have built up a team of accomplished lawyers who respond to the intellectual rigour and variety of the work, together with the informal, friendly nature of the environment. We need more bright people to join our team. Although relevant experience is helpful, your analytical and problem-solving skills will ultimately be your greatest assets. Wherever you come from, the quality of work, the intellectual rigour and the sheer variety will keep you sharp and motivated.

For an informal chat, please call Robin Tremaine or Kevin Thompson on 0171 600 1000. Alternatively, write with full CV to Rosie Lynn-Jones, Personnel Manager, Clifford Chance, 200 Aldersgate Street, London EC1A 4JJ.

CLIFFORD CHANCE

MONCKTON CHAMBERS

4 RAYMOND BUILDINGS

Chambers of John Swift QC

Chambers Director - London C.£75,000

A leading set of barristers' chambers, Monckton Chambers specialises in competition law, European Community law, commercial litigation, judicial review, utilities regulation and VAT and customs law.

In line with its modern commercial approach and commitment to client care, Monckton Chambers is looking to maintain and develop its leading position with the appointment of its first Chambers Director.

Reporting to the Head of Chambers and working closely with the management committee, you will be responsible for the management and strategic development of Chambers. Your remit will cover developing and implementing Chambers' business plan, devising and managing marketing plans, motivating and managing staff, overseeing all aspects of Chambers' administration including financial planning and control. You will work in close co-operation with the Senior Clerk in taking Chambers forward into the 21st Century.

You are an individual with an enviable track record in Senior Management, probably within a service or business-to-business environment, and/or experience of the legal sector. Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills are a pre-requisite and you will have a demonstrable track record in developing strong and effective relationships at all levels of the organisation. This role requires an individual with a highly commercial, flexible and resilient approach combined with the ability to work as part of a team to deliver an efficient, high quality commercial legal service.

Please forward an up to date Curriculum Vitae including a day time telephone number to Sally Dunwoody at QD Marketing.
Email: qdmarketing@qdggroup.co.uk

QD Marketing
37-41 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4JH

Tel: 0171 405 6082
Fax: 0171 404 9658
Web: www.qdggroup.com

This assignment is being exclusively handled by QD Marketing, and any direct or third party applications will be sent to them.



QD
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

IN-HOUSE

Legal adviser Monaco

Solicitor with up to 3 years' experience to join the legal department of the services company of an international group whose main business is refining and marketing oil. You should have a good commercial background and a high level of ambition and drive, as well as initiative and the ability to work both individually and in a team environment. Some experience of intellectual property would be a distinct advantage. A sense of humour is essential and knowledge of another European language, in particular Italian, would be ideal.

Sole lawyer Thames Valley

Successful international software company seeks to recruit a solicitor or barrister with approx 3-4 years' experience some of which ideally should have been in-house experience. The role requires a proactive, hardworking commercial lawyer with sound communication skills and sound commercial sense. Prior experience of working in Europe, of the IT sector and software agreements would be useful as would a second European language. An excellent salary and benefits package will be offered.

Contact: Sonya Rayner or Morwenna Lewis
e-mail: industry@chambersrecruitment.co.uk

LONDON/OVERSEAS

EU competition City

Solicitor with 2-3 years' experience in EU competition law and an interest in the WTO and for one of the few significant WTO practices in the City. The position provides an opportunity to travel. Fluent French is essential.

Corporate partner City

New London office of leading regional firm, with strong flow of transactions requiring London-based lawyers, seeks senior solicitor for broad range of private and public company M&A. Firm has excellent national reputation.

Employment City

One of employment law's leading practitioners seeks senior solicitor with circa 5-8 yrs' experience for broad mix of contentious and non contentious work and to help manage the dept. Excellent partnership prospects in unique international firm.

Banking prof support City

Top five City firm seeks 1-3 year qualified solicitor for broad professional support role. Work includes know-how, precedents and involvement in training. Salary on same scale as fee-earners but working hours much shorter.

David Woolfson, Paul Thomas, Emma Ridley
e-mail: london@chambersrecruitment.co.uk

Journalists and researchers

Chambers publishing is expanding so fast that we need more journalists and researchers. Would you be interested? We're looking for lively imaginative lawyers whose creative talents are not being satisfied in the practice of law. We need good writers who are interested in the legal profession and how it works and who want to keep in contact with it as a commentator rather than a practitioner.

There are various openings. You could join us on a short-term contract helping with directory research or as an assistant on the magazines. You could commit to a career in journalism leading on to a variety of jobs in the media or even back in the legal profession. Whatever your choice, you can be sure it will be interesting, stimulating, unpredictable. We encourage a free-wheeling atmosphere here. At first you may think it's chaos but you'll soon find that it generates creative originality and high quality.

Michael Chambers

SHARE SCHEME LAWYER

Leading Employee Benefits Consultancy

London



BACON & WOODROW
Solicitors and Consultants
Internationally WOODROW HILLMAN

Excellent Package

Our client is Bacon & Woodrow whose pay and benefits group is a leading provider of services and advice across a broad spectrum of employee benefits issues. One of the largest firms of its kind in Europe, it successfully services a prestigious client base. A key service offering is in share schemes which is an area in which the firm is strongly positioned to continue to be one of the major forces. In line with this, the practice is now seeking to expand its share scheme resources through the appointment of a qualified lawyer with an outstanding track record in this field.

THE POSITION

- Responsible for the provision of professional legal advice concerning commercial, compliance and tax issues relating to UK and international share schemes.
- Support, as well as lead on, a wide range of projects and manage client relationships. Provide practical, leading edge share scheme advice and solutions to reflect the client's needs and business.
- Work as part of the team to continue to promote the firm's capability in this field and ensure it remains an eminent and leading player in this market.
- Opportunity to be involved in advising on strategic remuneration matters.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Candidates will be qualified lawyers with 3-8 years post-qualification experience from either a professional or consultancy background.
- Ideally, experience of evaluating and advising on a wide range of share scheme matters. It would also be advantageous if candidates have experience of either pensions or employment law.
- Commercially mature with highly developed communication and interpersonal skills.
- A team player with the ability to work on, and lead, a range of projects. Preferably a strong client focus with the maturity to comfortably relate to senior level contacts, such as Board Directors and Remuneration Committees.

This is an excellent opportunity for an ambitious executive in this field keen to significantly enhance their career development. Interested candidates should write, enclosing full career and current salary details to the advising consultants, Sharon Glenaway or Angela de Marco, quoting reference 2631 at Questor International, 3 Burlington Gardens, London W1X 1LE. Telephone 0171 292 8300, fax 0171 287 5457. e-mail: claire@questorint.com



QUESTOR INTERNATIONAL

CHAMBERS
PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

Chambers Professional Recruitment, Saville House, 23 Long Lane,
London EC1A 9HL. Tel: 0171 606 8844 Fax: 0171 600 1793

EUROPEAN
EMPLOYMENT

FedEx

The World On Time

PSD

IN-HOUSE

Commercial lawyer SE

Opportunity for a senior solicitor or barrister to join an existing legal team in a leading international company. The role involves a wide range of commercial law work, including the execution of legal documents, advising on tax matters, and dealing with matters of commercial law. The successful candidate will be able to interact with senior management and will have a strong understanding of the company's business and its legal requirements. Excellent salary & remuneration package will be offered to reflect the importance of the role.

IT contracts Hants

Leading international company with a strong reputation in the IT sector seeks to recruit a senior solicitor or barrister to join its in-house legal team. The role involves a wide range of IT law work, including the negotiation and drafting of IT contracts, advising on data protection issues, and dealing with matters of commercial law. The successful candidate will be able to interact with senior management and will have a strong understanding of the company's business and its legal requirements. Excellent salary & remuneration package will be offered to reflect the importance of the role.

Contact: Sonya Rayner or Morwenna Lewis
e-mail: industry@chambersrecruitment.co.uk

CHAMBERS
PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

EUROPEAN LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT COUNSEL

GE Capital is the phenomenally successful financial services division of GE. In Europe, the GE Capital businesses include consumer, commercial and auto finance, real estate and credit, bond and mortgage insurance. With business operations throughout Europe (particularly in France, Germany and Sweden) it is poised for further growth.

Crucial to GE Capital's success is the strength of its European legal team and a new role for a senior European Labour and Employment Counsel has now been created. You will support GE Capital's operations throughout Europe, based at the headquarters in Piccadilly, and have both European and Global reporting lines. In particular, the role will involve:

- Advising on all non-contentious employment matters;
- Supervising employment-related litigation; and
- Leading task forces on various corporate initiatives such as data protection and European Works Council issues.

To perform this role you will need at least six years' relevant experience gained in a major international law firm with a recognised employment practice. Exposure to both common law and civil code systems would be desirable as would a second European language.



An Equal Opportunity Employer

As well as technical expertise, you must display strong leadership skills and the capability to play a key role within a fast-moving business and human resources team based across Europe. This will require excellent communication skills, the ability to quickly identify and prioritise issues and provide solutions-driven legal advice to human resource and business personnel.

In return, GE Capital can offer an outstanding opportunity for a high-achieving employment lawyer to progress their career within a truly global organisation which offers real prospects for growth. This is an executive appointment combining an attractive salary and benefits package.

For further information in complete confidence, please send a copy of your CV to Lizzy Orange or Elizabeth Williams at ZMB Industry, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PL. Confidentiality 0171 523 3823. Alternatively telephone them on 0171 523 1250 (0181 749 4108 evenings/weekends). E-mail: lizzy.orange@zmbgroup.com. ZMB Industry are dealing with this recruitment on an exclusive basis. All direct and third party applications will be forwarded to them. Closing date is Monday 17th May 1999.

GE Capital Services

Trademark of General Electric Company, U.S.A., which is not affiliated with the British company of the same name.

"An innovative provider of high quality services."

A major client.

ACCORD plc

General Counsel

Hertfordshire

To £Excellent + bens

The Accord group of companies has been created on the refocussing of the John Doyle Group plc. The company is involved in developing FM, maintenance services and PFI solutions for a variety of organisations. With an initial turnover approaching £100m and the backing of City investors, the company is planning a public listing in the next 3-5 years.

The opportunity has arisen to join Accord as General Counsel. As a member of the senior management team, you will be responsible for all legal matters arising and will be required to provide strategic legal advice at board level.

With between 3 and 7 years' post-qualification experience, gained either in private practice or in-house, you will be committed to providing high-quality commercial advice. You will have a strong commercial law background and extensive negotiation experience. Some exposure to employment law and insurance matters would be advantageous. You will have the capacity to succeed as part of a team in a dynamic, commercial environment.

This is an outstanding opportunity for a high calibre individual to take an important and strategic role in this dynamic new company. As you would expect from a role that requires significant senior input - with individuals from both within and outside the organisation - this position offers an excellent salary and benefits package.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact: Samantha Mills on 0171 405 8082 (0171 221 8528 even/weekends) or write to her at QD to-House Legal.

QD to-House Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
London WC1R 4JH
Tel: 0171 405 8082
Confidentiality: 0171 831 6394
Web: www.qdgroup.co.uk

This assignment is being exclusively handled by QD to-House Legal and all direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them for consideration.



LONDON - PARTNERS & SENIOR ASSOCIATES

EJ • LEGAL
STRATEGIC RECRUITMENT ADVISERS

EMPLOYMENT

To £££

An exciting and challenging platform at the London office of this national law firm offers a heavy-weight senior employment practitioner an opportunity to take the stage and spearhead the further development of its employment team. Already developing a successful practice in London and established as a leading practice outside, our client seeks an individual with the drive, ambition and marketing skills to bring the London team to the forefront of employment practices in the City. A challenging role, yes, but a thrilling opportunity for a high flying partner or an exceptional senior associate seeking early immediate partnership.

INFO TECH

To £150,000

As recent appointments have demonstrated, our client provides a superb platform for ambitious associates to progress. One of London's best kept recruitment secrets, this medium-sized cutting-edge firm which, in its broad corporate practice, already acts for multinationals, seeks a top flight IT specialist (6+ years' exp) to develop the exceptional opportunities the client base presents. This is an outstanding position offering partnership in its true sense.

TAX

To £200,000

The nature of tax within private practice will change in the coming years - the unconscious assumption that tax experts will sit quietly and advise when asked by their corporate colleagues is outdated. As a senior associate with ambition and drive, or an established partner frustrated by the lack of dynamism within your firm you will recognise the attraction of this exciting, City practice. Areas in which you will be able to tap in include corporate finance (including bond issues), acting for merchant and overseas banks, retailers, clients in the leisure industry, some property work - all with an increasing international flavour, particularly in Germany. The partnership wants to invest in the future of a tax department that will be given the support to "stand-alone".

CORPORATE/PRIVATE EQUITY

To £175,000

An exceptional opportunity beckons a top flight lawyer with 5+ years' exp joined in a leading City firm. If you would prefer to act for Fortune 500 companies where you will be more involved in commercial decisions and be instrumental in organising their worldwide transactions, this firm, often considered to be the world's leading multinational law firm, may well be of interest. Client development skills are a prerequisite, and the successful applicant will be expected to have a part following. Partnership prospects are excellent, if not immediate.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

To £130,000

Succession planning leads this dynamic, 6.5 partner City firm, with a client base including listed companies and many entrepreneur-managed businesses, to seek a partner to play a pivotal role in the development of the property practice. Whilst there is very varied and exciting work to be tackled from the firm's existing clients as they grow and diversify the successful candidate will be expected to have a part following. Immediate partnership offered and a swift move into equity is envisaged.

CONSTRUCTION

To £200,000

There is great talk in London at the moment about designated Construction units and blue chip contractor client bases. Every Construction lawyer knows that in the real world it is extremely difficult for a top rank firm to attract heavyweight construction clients who are prepared to pay City rates. The London office of a renowned partnership has a forward thinking policy and can attract quality work through its national network. The instructions are flowing in and so a partner with a realistic approach to the value of a construction practice would be a welcome addition to the team.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:
AMITA GOEL, SENIOR TERNORUP OR
SIMON EAGAN AT
EJAN JAMON RECRUITMENT
44-45 CHANCERY LANE
LONDON WC2A 1JH
TELEPHONE: +44 (0)171 404 6669
FAX: +44 (0)171 404 6817
EMAIL: info@ejl.com



Senior Attorney c.8 yrs' pge

The World On Time

FedEx is the world's largest express transportation company, providing fast and reliable service for more than 3 million shipments each business day. FedEx's success derives from its unique ability to provide the most innovative transportation and logistics solutions to its customers. Operating in more than 211 countries, connecting markets that comprise 90 percent of the world's gross domestic product.

An outstanding international opportunity currently exists for a senior commercial lawyer to join a dedicated legal team. Spending an initial 1 year period at the company's head office in Memphis, USA before taking up a Managing Attorney level position at the European head office in Brussels.

Reporting to the Vice President of Legal EMEA, you will provide legal counsel and advice on a wide range of commercial and corporate matters including commercial contracts, tax, regulatory and labour law compliance. Ideally you will have in excess of 8 years' post qualification experience with exposure to a variety of commercial issues including project negotiation and documentation on an international basis. In return an excellent salary and benefits package is available.

For a confidential discussion please contact Georgina Farr at PSD Reuter Simkin. Alternatively send your CV with a covering letter to the address/fax number below, quoting reference 44575. All direct or third party applications will be forwarded to PSD Reuter Simkin.

PSD Reuter Simkin
85/89 Colmore Row
Birmingham
B3 2BB
Tel: 0121 212 0099
Fax: 0121 236 9361
E-mail: bbbj@psdgroup.com
Internet: www.psdgroup.com



PSD

Reuter Simkin
Legal Recruitment

IN-HOUSE

Snr commercial lawyer SE

High profile int'l firm co requires snr or barr with prior in-house exp to join existing legal dept. Must be able to handle large scale acquisitions, divestitures and outsourcing agreements, and oversee the execution of large commercial deals, including their tax implications. Must also be able to interact directly with Board members on matters of commercial and IP strategy, antitrust and competition policy. Excellent salary & remuneration package will be offered to reflect the importance the co attaches to this appointment.

Hi-tech contracts Hants

International manufacturing company with a variety of hi-tech interests seeks to recruit an additional lawyer with relevant in-house contracts experience to work on commercial and contractual matters for two of the Group's businesses. You should be familiar with software and hardware agreements, licensing and maintenance contracts, Y2K and Euro compliance matters and Internet trading. The successful candidate will act as contracts manager, playing an active and creative role in the development and growth of the businesses.

Contact: Sonya Rayner or Morwenna Lewis
e-mail: industry@chambersrecruitment.co.uk



LONDON / OVERSEAS

EU prof support City

Leading City firm seeks solicitor from either private practice or in house for PSL role for EU/Competition department. You would have the back-up of cutting-edge technology and a team of information officers. Competitive salary.

Co/com partner West End

Thriving practice seeks senior company/commercial solicitor to step into the shoes of the head of department in due course. Terrific team acting mainly for family businesses and with a particular niche in sports sector.

Banking litigation City

Major firm, with one of the largest banking practices, seeks two solrs at 3-5 yrs' pge & at NQ level to act for clearing banks and finance houses. Highly regarded dept, inundated with work. Salary to £65,000.

Prof support lawyers City

We have many psl positions for corporate, banking, EU, property and litigation solitors seeking full-time positions. These suit lawyers who enjoy working for major firms, are seeking good salaries, but do not wish to work long hours or weekends.

David Woolfson, Paul Thomas, Emma Ridley
e-mail: london@chambersrecruitment.co.uk

Chambers Professional Recruitment, Saville House, 23 Long Lane,
London EC1A 9HL Tel: 0171 606 8844 Fax: 0171 600 1793

Self exposure

Whatever answer you give in an interview can be taken two ways - as it's meant to be taken or as its opposite. It can be heard as you intend it - as a comment on the matter you're talking about - or it can be interpreted as a revelation not about your subject matter but about you yourself.

We saw an example of this recently. The candidate was asked why he wanted to move, and explained that his boss was unfortunately not a lawyer and found it difficult to understand legal concepts. His role as legal adviser, therefore, was undervalued. The candidate assumed that the interviewer, being a lawyer himself, would sympathise with his predicament. He misjudged. The message rebounded against him. The interviewer suspected that if the boss couldn't understand what the legal adviser was telling him, he may not have been getting clear and cogent advice. The fault, assumed the interviewer, was probably the lawyer's.

Whatever you say - and there are no exceptions - you're telling the interviewer about yourself.

Michael Chambers

If you are considering a change in career direction, take a closer look at London Guildhall University. One of the most established law schools in the UK, we have been preparing students for the Law Society Final Examination and, more recently, the Legal Practice Course since the early 1970's.

Preach what you practice

A Career in Legal Education -

Senior Lecturer for the Legal Practice Course

We are looking for someone with current or recent practical experience as a solicitor to join the team that teaches the Legal Practice Course in part-time and full-time modes. With your first class communication skills you will have demonstrable teaching potential and will relish the opportunity to really make a difference and to give students a true insight into the workings of the modern legal world. Our particular need is for someone to teach the compulsory subject of Business Law and Practice and one or more of the optional client electives.

To help you make the next step in your legal career we offer all the support, training and facilities needed to make the transition from Practitioner to Lecturer. Above all we can offer a very positive direction for your career, further, we will support your ambitions with excellent research opportunities and flexible working patterns to suit all lifestyles. Salary will be within the range £25,353-£31,725 per annum.

For an informal discussion, contact Frank Webb, Head of Department, on 0171 320 1501, email: webbf@lgu.ac.uk or Nick Saunders, LPC Course Director, on 0171 320 1509, email: nsaunder@lgu.ac.uk

To receive the application pack and find out more about the opportunities, scope and rewards on offer, call the 24hr recruitment hotline on 0171 320 3435, fax on 0171 320 3477 or email: onl@lgu.ac.uk quoting your name, address, where you saw the advert and Ref. No. 99/51. The closing date for applications is 12 May 1999.

Alternatively, apply on-line via the Monster Board at <http://www.monster.co.uk>



LONDON GUILDHALL
UNIVERSITY
Advancing Learning and Equal Opportunities



5 New Square Lincoln's Inn

Chancery and commercial Intellectual Property and Entertainment

We are looking to build on our existing strengths by controlled expansion at all levels. Applications to join Chambers are therefore invited from:

- Existing practitioners, whether individuals or groups,
- Those in pupillage, with a view to a tenancy.

Applications should be addressed to Jonathan Rayner James QC at 5 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3JR or LDE 272 and will be dealt with in strictest confidence.

Jonathan Rayner James QC Kevin Gorman QC
James Simmons DL John Ross Murray FCILR Paul Dickson
Simon H. Stewart Alexander Stewart Amanda Michaels
Sir Patrick Stoddart Bt Edward Brogioli Julia Clark
Chambers: Ian Duggan, Clive Nicholls

SECURITISATION LAWYER

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY WITHIN AN INTERNATIONAL US LAW FIRM

The London office of a US law firm seeks a US qualified lawyer who has at least 2 years experience in US structured finance and securitisation transactions. The candidate must also be a US qualified certified public accountant. Premium salary and benefits offered for the right experience.

Please send your resume and covering letter to:
PO Box 5560
Closing date for applications is 4 May, 1999.

SPECIALIST BARRISTERS WANTED

Do you practice largely in the areas of commercial or property law (including all forms of commercial and property litigation and related professional negligence)?

Would you welcome the opportunity to join a long established and prestigious set of chambers in the Temple with such groups of specialists?

If so, and you are of at least 6 years call, write in complete confidence to Box No: 5971

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

THE WIDEST CHOICE

► Corp/Fin & Co/Co Lawyers 3-5 Years' PQE
Some of the region's largest and best known law firms have opportunities for solicitors or barristers with at least three years' experience in the above areas of law, gained from a well known City firm or chambers. The work includes a variety of finance related matters on behalf of an international client base and applications would be especially welcome from candidates with backgrounds in *mutual funds, structured finance and capital markets*. The positions offer the opportunity to gain excellent experience handling a top quality workload in an attractive environment. For more information please contact Sean Matherin. Ref: 4088

► Property Litigation
This international practice is one of the City's leading firms and is now looking to further expand its property litigation group by the addition of a lawyer with up to 2 years' experience in this field. If you wish to join this highly regarded and focused team, working with a caseload and client base of the highest quality where the opportunities for advancement will be unfettered, contact Özlem Avni. Ref: 4113

► Projects/Power
An excellent opportunity has arisen in this highly regarded medium sized City firm's Corporate Group for a Senior Power/Projects Lawyer. High quality work will include infrastructure projects, fuel supply and purchase agreements, and Eastern Europe work, in a structure where there will be no bars to progression. Contact Özlem Avni. Ref: 4113

► Private Client
The private client work of this leading practice stems from corporate and agricultural clients and high net worth individuals. There is a position for either a senior lawyer capable of leading and developing a department or a more junior solicitor with a minimum of three years' experience. In either case, you will be commercially aware with a strong interest in marketing. You should have experience in estate planning, wills, tax and trusts. The position holds terrific potential to develop the department further. Please contact Andre Field. Ref: 755

US FIRMS IN LONDON

We are looking for exceptional lawyers, preferably working for a top ten City firm or leading regional practice in one of the specialisms referred to below. We especially require people who are happy in their current role but who would be interested in taking a look at practices where their workload is similar, the environment exciting, the client base is unrivalled and salaries between ten and sixty percent above City rates. Why not take two minutes and call us for more information?

Corporate: 0-6 yrs PQE Insolvency: 0-6 yrs PQE
Structured Fin: 0-6 yrs PQE Corp Tax: 1-6 yrs PQE
IP: 3-7 yrs PQE Banking: 2-6 yrs PQE
Please contact James Yates.



LAURENCE SIMONS
International Legal Recruitment
Professional, Proactive and Personal

Craven House, 121 Kingsway, London WC2B 6PA. Tel +44 (0)171 831 3270, Fax +44 (0)171 831 4429

Evenings (after 7pm)/Weekends Tel: +44 (0)181 203 9080

E-mail: laurence@laurencsimons.demon.co.uk

► EU/Competition - 1-3 Years' PQE
For information on excellent opportunities to work with leading firms in the heart of Europe, please contact Sean Matherin. Ref: 4088

► French M&A Lawyer
This \$20+ billion US multinational has a requirement for a high calibre French lawyer with extensive M&A experience to assume a new role based in either Paris or Luxembourg. Ideally you will be French qualified although candidates qualified elsewhere with experience of living and working in Paris will be considered. This is a hands-on role that will require a flexible and adaptable approach and involve interaction at the most senior levels both internally and externally. Contact Naveen Tuli. Ref: 4042

► Regulatory Affairs Counsel
This fast growing international telecommunications company is currently seeking a 3+ years' qualified lawyer, either with telecoms regulatory or EC competition law experience to deal with a variety of legal matters and be responsible for monitoring regulatory developments in the UK and Ireland. Contact Rachael North. Ref: 4164

► European Commercial/IT Role
Our client is a worldwide provider of IT services and business solutions. Reporting to the General Counsel in the US, our client seeks an additional senior lawyer with between 5 and 10 years' experience IT/IP and general commercial matters. Contact Rachael North. Ref: 4155

► Property Development
This expanding property development company is looking to recruit a 1 to 4 years' qualified solicitor to deal with all aspects of property acquisition and development. A stock market flotation is planned. Contact Shona McDougall on Tel: 01223 516001; Fax: 01223 516002. Ref: 4148

► Patents (European Role)
This high technology company has an opportunity for a European Patent Attorney capable of handling electro mechanical inventions in a highly commercial role. Contact Laurence Simons personally. Ref: 4143

► Company Commercial
This professional services firm has an attractive opportunity for a good all rounder, ideally with 4 or more years' experience. The firm specialises in advising owner managed businesses and the work is varied and interesting. Contact Shona McDougall on 01223 516001 or Laurence Simons personally. Ref: 3883

YOU WON'T WANT
TO COME BACK.

FINANCE LAWYERS

2 TO 6 YEARS (PLUS) PQE

AMSTERDAM

And there's a whole host of reasons why. Firstly, you'll have a great time in a friendly culture with a lively social scene. At the same time you'll enjoy high levels of responsibility within the atmosphere of a team environment. In short, you can build a career with us and for the right candidate at senior level there are excellent partnership prospects. You've got to be experienced in a City-type finance practice. Dutch language skills are not a requirement.

Please write with a full cv to Mark Huddleston, Partner, Clifford Chance, Apollolaan 171, 1077 AS AMSTERDAM. Fax: +31 20 5777222. Email mark.huddleston@cliffordchance.com

CLIFFORD CHANCE

UNIVERSITY OF GLAMORGAN
PRIFYSGOL MORGANNWGREADER/PROFESSOR IN COMMERCIAL LAW
AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION (REF: RLF04)

Salary: Negotiable, but not less than £30,000

The successful applicant for the above post will have a proven research ability at a national level and the ability to generate and attract research funding. He/she will be expected to lead a range of commercially orientated high quality Masters programmes and will play a significant role in further heightening the research profile of the Law School.

When phoning for an application form please quote RLF04.

For details ring 01443 482084 (24 hours).

e-mailing cedawie2@glam.ac.uk or access our home page on

http://www.litc.glam.ac.uk/personnel/current.htm

CLOSING DATE: 12 May 1999

ALL BOX
NUMBER
REPLIES
SHOULD
BE ADDRESSED
TO: BOX
No.
c/o TIMES
NEWSPAPERS
P.O. BOX 3553,
VIRGINIA ST,
LONDON,
E1 9GA

NEW LONDON - In-house solicitor
required with broad range of legal
knowledge, including up-to-date
commercial, conveyancing, 15 - 20 yrs exp. Fee: £25,000 -
£40,000. 100% inc. 0171 417 417

PERSONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES
Dept of leading firm seeks senior
solicitor to join team to advise
on all aspects of personal finance,
including pension and estate planning.
£25,000 - £35,000. Fee: £15,000 -
£25,000. 100% inc. 0171 417 417

PERSONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES
Dept of leading firm seeks senior
solicitor to join team to advise
on all aspects of personal finance,
including pension and estate planning.
£25,000 - £35,000. Fee: £15,000 -
£25,000. 100% inc. 0171 417 417

PRACTICE MANAGER - Solicitor
with 10-15 yrs exp. to join leading
firm in the City. Must have a
minimum of 5 yrs exp. in a
senior position. £25,000 - £35,000.
0171 417 417

SHARMA & TRETHEN
Solicitors
Private Client - Bedford
Well established Legal Practice
seeking experienced Solicitor to
join busy Private Dept.
Candidates should have a
minimum of 5 yrs PQE and
be conversant with RTI, GGT
and IT. In addition, experience
of Trust Administration will be
required. Good from office skills
and technical ability are
prerequisites.
Please apply in writing with CV
to The Bar, Partner, Sharma
& Trethen, 1 Mary Lane,
Bedford MK40 1PP.

INSOLVENCY AND BANKING LAWYER

An international law firm with strength in depth across a wide
range of specialist practice areas is seeking to recruit a lawyer
to join its banking and insolvency practice. Applicants should have
up to two years experience of banking and insolvency in a leading
banking and insolvency law firm including preparing and drafting
loan facility, security, priority and security sharing documents,
advising in respect of these and related documents and enforcing
such documents, including in receiverships and insolvencies.

Please apply enclosing a curriculum vitae, to Scott Gibson or Peter
Gordon, Hughes-Cresswell, 87 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1SD,
or telephone on 0171 242 0800.

The Closing date for applications is Tuesday 11th May.

University College Dublin
An Coláiste Ollscoile Baile Átha Cliath

FACULTY OF LAW

Applications are invited by the Governing Authority
of the College for the following part-time Associate
Professorship:

**JEAN MONNET ASSOCIATE
PROFESSORSHIP OF EUROPEAN
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
(Seven-Year Appointment)
(Ref: 106/99)**

The annual stipend attached to the office is in the
range: IR£41,783 - IR£55,852 (new entrants)

Prior to application, further information (including
application procedures) should be obtained from the
Personnel Office, University College Dublin,
Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland (quoting above reference
number). Telephone enquires: (353 1) 706 1653.
Fax: (353 1) 269 2472.
Email: acadrec@listserv.ucc.ie

Closing Date: Not later than 5.00 p.m. on Thursday 27
May 1999

UCD is an equal opportunities employer
University College Dublin - National University of Ireland, Dublin

CROCKERS OSWALD HICKSON

Media Department
- 2 Assistant Solicitors (up to 4 years PQE)

We are looking to recruit two lawyers with defamation and
copyright experience to join our Media Department. Applicants
should have a strong academic background and should be
enthusiastic, hardworking and good team players. Salary
commensurate with experience.

To apply please send CV to Katy Jones at:

Crockers Oswald Hickson
10 Gough Square, London EC4A 3NJ
Tel. 0171 353 0311 Fax. 017 936 3809

To Advertise in Legal Appointments
please call James Merrett

Tel. 0171 680 6830
Fax. 0171 782 7899

e-mail: James.merrett@newsint.co.uk

Monitoring & Investigation Unit

£25,000 - £27,000 per annum + car + benefits

The Office for the Supervision of Solicitors is the regulatory body for solicitors throughout
England and Wales. Our Accounts Inspection Team is responsible for the monitoring of
solicitors' accounts, and the detection and investigation of fraud and financial irregularities.

Candidates should:

- be educated to degree level
- hold a relevant professional qualification such as Law or Accountancy
- have an enquiring and analytical mind
- be excellent communicators with the confidence to work in hostile environments
- remain calm under pressure and retain a sense of humour.

Relevant forensic-based experience would be an advantage.

Primarily London based this role may involve extensive travel throughout England and
Wales for which a car will be provided. Periodic attendance at the Law Society's offices in
Leamington Spa is required.

For a job description and application form please contact Jenny Quayle on 01926 822088
(answerphone) or write enclosing CV to: Victoria Court, 8 Dormer Place, Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire CV32 5AE.

Closing date for completed applications is 14th May 1999.

Interviews will be held after 24th May 1999.

Working for excellence and fairness in guarding standards

OFFICE FOR THE SUPERVISION OF SOLICITORS

The Law Society is the governing body that represents and regulates solicitors in England and Wales.
We carry out a broad spectrum of activities ranging from Law reform and practice advice to
professional education and public relations.

CONTRACTS SPECIALIST

£27,147 - £31,000 PA. + EXCELLENT BENEFITS

REDDITCH

Reporting to the Legal Adviser, the Contracts Specialist will take the strategic lead in all contract
development, covering areas such as service, IT, purchasing and supply, consultancy, publishing and
intellectual property contracts. The focus will be to draft, negotiate and maintain workable contracts
which protect the Society's interests, create consistency and ensure that everyone understands their
role and responsibilities.

Of graduate calibre and ideally with relevant contract law qualifications, you must have at least three years'
practical experience covering a minimum of three of the contract areas noted above. As well as the drafting
process, the role involves a great deal of interaction with other people so your teamwork and communication
skills (both oral and written) need to be excellent. Highly organised, analytical and accurate, the ability to
continue exhibiting these qualities whilst under deadline pressure is essential.

Although based in the Midlands, you will need to travel occasionally to London and Leamington Spa.

Please ring 0171 404 2099 (24 hour
answerphone) for an application pack.

www.lawsociety.org.uk

Working towards equal opportunities



Closing date for applications
is 17 May 1999.

First interviews 26 May 1999.

Second interviews 2 June 1999.

THE LAW SOCIETY



WARNER BROS.

European Legal
and Business
Affairs Department

Commercial Lawyer

Competitive Salary London

Warner Bros. is a leader in its field, and the Legal
and Business Affairs Department advises on legal
and business issues in the UK and throughout
Europe. It is a very active and busy department.

You will advise on and negotiate varied types of
transactions and related agreements. Excellent
communication and drafting skills are essential.
Liaising with commercial managers and external
legal counsel, you will handle key operational and
commercial work, not all of it media-related.
There may be some travel abroad.

You will be someone who can make an immediate
impact. You will already have gained solid
commercial experience (eg joint venture,
distribution, competition, general business) since
qualifying approximately three years ago, and you
will have a solid, even if general, knowledge of IP
(copyright/trademark). Some contentious litigation
experience would also be extremely helpful, as
would proficiency in a foreign language, preferably
German, Italian or an Eastern European language.

Please send your CV and a covering
letter, quoting reference: CL/ABAT, to the
Human Resources Department, Warner Bros.,
135 Wardour Street, London W1V 4AP.

Closing date: Monday 10th May 1999.

A racket to tempt the masses

Nick Szczepanik on an LTA scheme offering net gains to young and old

Only a few short weeks ago, a vast television audience apart from those who could not bear to look at the Davis Cup tie between Great Britain and the United States and thrilled to the quality of the tennis, the intensity of the competition and the drama of the occasion. So much for the accusation that the British only notice tennis during Wimbledon fortnight.

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) hopes that the interest engendered by that tie can be channelled into Play Tennis 99, eight days of events aimed at broadening the base of the game in Britain by providing free access to the best facilities and coaches. From May 1 to 8, the LTA's biggest tennis promotion offers players of all ages and levels of experience free coaching, skills-testing and competitions at centres in every leading town and city in Britain.

"We want to maximise the interest in the sport generated by the recent efforts of Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski during their memorable Davis Cup tie and encourage more people to take up tennis and enjoy the game for years to come," John Crowther, the chief executive of the LTA, said.

More than 72,000 people in 1,000 clubs and centres participated in Play Tennis 98 and the LTA has invited 2,700 clubs, 2,500 schools, 2,800 coaches and 570 local authorities to take part this year. Eighteen thousand of the participants last year were newcomers to the sport and more than 80 per cent were under 18. Almost 9,000 signed up for lessons as a result.

Jim Courier, of the United States, whose performance in the Davis Cup proved decisive, said in one of his post-match press conferences: "Great Britain is really lucky to have seen that match and you should see a lot of kids wanting to pick up a racket and go out there and play."

Apart from the obvious need to foster new talent and unearth Davis and Fed Cup stars for the future, the week seeks to introduce as many players as possible to the benefits of coaching and to remind others of the enjoyment to be had from the game. Each of the eight days of the programme features a different theme, including a family day, "rusty rackets", aimed at those who have not played recently, "ever-

greens", for those aged 50 or older, and "anyone can play", for disabled players.

"Performance at the top end is important to our aims as an organisation, but another objective is to get more people playing more regularly, not just during Wimbledon fortnight," Heidi Cohn, of the LTA, said.

"We're not just looking for beginners. A lot of our work is about broadening the base, as with any sport. The more people that take part, the more likely you are to unearth talent, and our job is to identify that talent and nurture it as best we can. We can't make champions, but we can give them the best opportunities to develop." Promising young beginners could find themselves selected for a day of training at the All England Club.

One useful spin-off of the programme will be to make occasional, or "retired", players aware of the improved facilities now available and to retain their involvement. It is also hoped to extend awareness of the growing number of indoor facilities, which ensure that there is no need to wait for the strawberries to ripen before getting the racket out.

Even though not all of the centres involved will be running events on every day, each has been selected for its ability to give a proper welcome to the sport for the numbers expected to attend, as well as being able to offer a continuing involvement through coaching and access to facilities.

Some centres will boast the added attraction of celebrity support: Henman, Sam Smith, the British women's No. 1, Frank Bruno, from the boxing world, Scott Gibbs and Gary Armstrong, the British Isles rugby players, and William Roach, the *Coronation Street* actor, will be attending various venues. Those big names, added to the excitement created by the Davis Cup tie, should push the number of participants throughout the country as high as 100,000.

For a list of venues and information about registration, there is an LTA information line. Details can also be found on the LTA website.

LINKS
WEBSITE: www.lta.org.uk - coaching schemes, tournament results and news
INFORMATION LINE: 0930 153040

Mel Webb profiles the eccentric Swedes who have achieved a unique golfing double

If casting about for a race noted for its eccentricity, the mind's eye would travel a long way down the list until it alighted on the Swedish and, even then, would move rapidly on. What a neat little paradox it was, then, that when two of their professional golfers created a small moment in sporting history on Sunday, they were the very two who would stand out in any crowd up to and including circus performers.

Which is not to say that either Jesper Parnevik or Jarmo Sandelin are figures of fun. Quirky they may be, unwelcome in dress and style they assuredly are, but with a set of clubs in their hands, a course on which to play and beat and they are as deadly serious as anybody.

So it was not an earth-shattering surprise when Parnevik won the Greater Greensboro Classic in North Carolina on Sunday, nor was it a shock when Sandelin took the Peugeot Spanish Open at El Prat on the outskirts of Barcelona. What marks their achievement is that they prevailed on the same day - the first time that Swedes have had simultaneous victories on the two strongest tours in the world.

The two of them, tall and slim, Parnevik, 34, and Sandelin, 31, share a penchant for designer clothing. Of course, Parnevik has his trademark upturned brim on his cap (sorry, Jesper, it still looks dead, but at least you don't wear it back to front). Then there are the tight-fitting trousers and equally snug shirts.

Meanwhile, over the week-



Parnevik lifts the Sam Snead Trophy after winning the Greater Greensboro Classic

end in Spain, Sandelin sported shirts that were pure early-Seventies Cliff Richard - white with six-inch points on the collar on Saturday, a green towelling number with a zip-up neck on Sunday that would

have looked just right by the swimming pool at his home in Monaco but all wrong on a golf course. Walking clothes-horses they are, both of them. Their differences, if only in career profiles, are as marked

as their similarities. Parnevik, went to the United States in 1996 and has made an outstanding success of it - his win put him back in the world top 20 at No 17 - whereas Sandelin's one foray into Ameri-

Kent lead the way as revolution begins

THE consequences of a grassroots revolution in English club cricket come into effect on Saturday, when most of the leading leagues in the country begin their programme for the new season. Ten leagues have been accorded Premier League status - and with it the grant of £1,000 for each club - its criteria would have to be met.

The vast majority of league cricketers are happy with the changes, even though it means both a drawn-out day and potentially longer in the field. Caps, though, have been put on the number of overs that a side batting first can receive. In the Surrey championship, for example, no side can bat for more than 66 overs, leaving the other 54.

The likelihood is, however, that the better teams, if they are not bowled out, will

declare at the halfway stage or earlier to give themselves more time to dismiss the opposition.

Surrey are one of the ten new Premier Leagues, the others being Birmingham and District, Cheshire, East Anglia, Essex, Kent, Middlesex, West of England, Sussex and Yorkshire. Smaller ECB grants are being given to two so-called Premier Elect Leagues, which meet some of the board's criteria for premier status (pyramid structures with promotion and relegation) but not the key one of 120 overs. These are Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire, which are likely to be joined next year by, among others, Derbyshire and Devon.

The biggest grant of all, £4,000 per club, has been given to the Kent League for agreeing to take part in a pilot scheme this season. Every

club Commentary
By Geoffrey Dean

match will be a two-day affair spread over two weekends, as in Australian grade cricket. Overnight wins, with extra points, will be achieved by bowling a side out twice or by reaching a target in the fourth innings. In the event of a draw, first-innings "win" points are awarded.

To confuse matters, though, the side batting on the first day must adjourn its innings at tea, even if not bowled out. Side B will then bat for the last session and side A will be able to resume its first innings at the start of play the next weekend. The idea is to ensure that both teams bat and bowl on each day.

"We think this is an interesting experiment and a good way of making the transition from one to two-day league cricket," Frank Kemp, the ECB's director of the recreational game, said. Interestingly, perhaps, bizarre most definitely.

'The vast majority of cricketers are happy with the changes, even if it means longer in the field'

SPORT IN BRIEF

Slaney to carry on drug fight

ATHLETICS: Mary Slaney, the former 1,500 and 3,000 metres world champion, has been found guilty of drug taking by an International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) arbitration panel (David Powell writes). Slaney has exhausted the IAAF appeals process but is taking legal action to clear her name, claiming that the test showing an excessive testosterone reading was flawed and discriminatory against women. Slaney failed a test taken at the United States Olympic Games trials in 1996, but it was not upheld by her national governing body. Now the IAAF has concluded that an offence occurred and has annulled her results for the two years she should have been banned, from June 1996 to 1998.

CRICKET: Five members of the Pakistan World Cup squad, including Wasim Akram, the captain, have been summoned to appear before a judicial inquiry into match-fixing. Wasim, Salim Malik, Ijaz Ahmed, Mushtaq Ahmed and Waqar Younis were due to appear before judge Malik Mohammad Qayum tomorrow, but because the team was due to leave for England today for the World Cup, they will be represented by their lawyers.

CYCLING: Matt Stephens, the national road race champion and captain of the Harrods team, narrowed the gap behind Gordon McCauley, of New Zealand, the leader of the Premier Calendar 17-race series, to nine points after the East Riding Classic two-day event.

Huw Pritchard, the winner of the second stage of the East Riding event, replaces Colin Sturgess, the former world champion, in the five-day Travelwise Tour, starting at Morecambe on Thursday. Sturgess is suffering from a back injury.

MODERN PENTATHLON: Kate Allenby, who took the women's World Cup title last year without winning a race until the final, secured victory in a round for the first time in Darmstadt, Germany, on Sunday (David Powell writes). Allenby was rewarded for the extra work she has put into her running training, moving up from fourth place to first on the last event.

REAL TENNIS: Penny Lumley and Sue Haswell, the world doubles champions, narrowly retained their title after a hard-fought battle against Sally Jones and Alex Garside, the former champions, in the final of the Guy Salmon women's world championship at Hampton Court. They won 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.

NOTTINGHAM	
15 Petit Palais	3.45 Chambré Separee
45 Ambitious	4.15 Bob's Buster
15 Barringer	4.45 Club U
	5.20 Bluewain Lady

JING: HEAVY (SOFT IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING
RAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

15 TRY RACE SPONSORSHIP AT NOTTINGHAM	
1 (1) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
2 (2) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
3 (3) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
4 (4) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
5 (5) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
6 (6) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
7 (7) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
8 (8) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
9 (9) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
10 (10) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
11 (11) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
12 (12) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
13 (13) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
14 (14) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
15 (15) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53

45 NOTTINGHAM FOR BUSINESS AND	
1 (1) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
2 (2) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
3 (3) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
4 (4) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
5 (5) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
6 (6) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
7 (7) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
8 (8) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
9 (9) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
10 (10) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
11 (11) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
12 (12) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
13 (13) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
14 (14) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
15 (15) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53

15 NOTTINGHAM ST EVERY TIME NOVICE	
1 (1) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
2 (2) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
3 (3) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
4 (4) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
5 (5) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
6 (6) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
7 (7) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
8 (8) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
9 (9) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
10 (10) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
11 (11) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
12 (12) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
13 (13) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
14 (14) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
15 (15) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53

3.45 WEATHERBYS ECLIPSE PEDIGREE MAIDEN	
1 (1) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
2 (2) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
3 (3) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
4 (4) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
5 (5) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
6 (6) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
7 (7) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
8 (8) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
9 (9) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
10 (10) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
11 (11) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
12 (12) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
13 (13) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
14 (14) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
15 (15) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53

4.15 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP	
1 (1) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
2 (2) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
3 (3) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
4 (4) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
5 (5) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
6 (6) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
7 (7) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
8 (8) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
9 (9) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
10 (10) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
11 (11) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
12 (12) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
13 (13) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
14 (14) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
15 (15) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53

4.45 COME RACING AT NOTTINGHAM FILLIES	
1 (1) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
2 (2) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
3 (3) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
4 (4) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
5 (5) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
6 (6) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
7 (7) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
8 (8) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
9 (9) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
10 (10) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
11 (11) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
12 (12) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
13 (13) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
14 (14) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
15 (15) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53

5.20 240 DAYS LEFT IN NOTTINGHAM	
1 (1) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
2 (2) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
3 (3) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
4 (4) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
5 (5) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
6 (6) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
7 (7) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
8 (8) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
9 (9) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
10 (10) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
11 (11) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
12 (12) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
13 (13) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
14 (14) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53
15 (15) 0-50 LADYMAN 7 (0.5) R Fano 8-13	R Winston (5) 53

Coote to benefit from Irish exodus

By GEORGE CAULKIN

A VERY fine line separates bold experimentation from complete exasperation and the Northern Ireland manager, Lawrie McMenemy, has taken a large stride over it. With 11 players withdrawing from the international against Canada at Windsor Park tonight, much scope for manoeuvre has already been curtailed. As a matter of urgency, would any fit male contact the Irish Football Association.

James Quinn, the West Bromwich Albion striker, became the eighth member of McMenemy's full squad to send his apologies yesterday, joining the ailing Keith Gillespie, Neil Lennon, Damien Johnson, Steve Morrow and Alan Pettis. Stephen Robinson and Peter Kennedy have been allowed to remain with their clubs, while three players have stood down from the stand-by list.

As a consequence, a brave face and a fresh face were revealed by McMenemy yesterday, both designed to deflect concern over a Euro 2000 qualifying campaign that has descended into farce. A combination of Quinn's absence and a dearth of goals — three in the past five games — ensure a nervous attacking partnership. Adrian Coote, of Norwich City, a recent graduate from the under-21 team, makes his debut alongside the lingering Iain Dowie.

"We all know that we need goals," McMenemy said. "I want to see how people like Adrian Coote react to the bigger stage. I want to see if there are any positives from him that might help us in our three remaining games."

The Reading defender, Barry Hunter, returns to international football after a sapping two-year battle against injury. The contrast with Canada, ranked 92nd in the world, could not be more striking. While their coach, Holger Osieck, was able to select a young, 18-man squad — the majority of whom are based in England, Scotland or Ireland — only Carlo Corazzin, of Northampton Town, is absent with injury.

NORTHERN IRELAND (possible, 4-4-2): M Taylor (Fulham) — D Patterson (Durham United), M Williams (Chesterfield), B de Vries (Luton Town), K Hetherington (Sheff Wed), D Bormer (Sheff Wed), S Lomas (West Ham United), P McNamee (Norwich City), J McCarter (Barnley), A Coote (Norwich City). **CANADA (possible, 4-4-2):** C Forrest (West Ham United), M Wilson (Oxford United), J McKinnon (Oxford United), B de Vries (Luton Town), B Pender (Fulham), M Davidson (St Johnstone), J Breen (Colchester United), M Braham (Millwall), J Brennan (Bristol City), P Puchaczewski (Fulham), G Russell (Preston).

PFA Player of the Year holds award in high regard, says Matt Dickinson

Ginola humbled by his honour

Flying back into Paris on holiday recently, David Ginola was greeted by a porter. "So what," the man inquired, "are you up to now you've retired from football?" He will get his answer this morning when he sees Ginola, dressed in a tuxedo and wearing a look of vindication, draped across his morning paper.

A mobbing by journalists from France came quickly yesterday on the back of Ginola's success in being voted the Professional Footballers' Association Player of the Year.

A less charming and media-aware person than the Tottenham Hotspur winger might have told him all to disappear back down the Channel Tunnel. After all, the press have hardly been waging a campaign for him to be restored to the national team since his exile began in 1993.

The opportunity to re-establish himself in his home country was too good to miss, however, so the 32-year-old sat and talked, although only, of course, after George Graham had allowed him to leave training. Player of the Year or not, no one slacks when Graham is their manager.

Even a man as accustomed to the glare of television cameras, studio lights and flashbulbs seemed somewhat overwhelmed by the avalanche of interest yesterday. "It is a great honour," he kept repeating, but what soon became obvious was that the recognition of his fellow players, as opposed to that of the media, had genuinely touched him.

Not because he has anything against the written press, but because it shattered the notion that he was regarded within football as a bit of a foreign sissy, a skilful player who could not cope with being kicked in the air, a man too worried about his hair to throw himself into tackles.

The attacks came most notably during Tottenham's long-running battles with Wimbledon this season, when Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, repeatedly accused Ginola of diving.

Only this Saturday, the Frenchman was suffering more gibes when Steve Lomas mocked the Spurs players for trying to start a fight. "Half of them would have bottled out anyway," the West Ham United player said, and it was clear which half he thought Ginola fell into.

But far from becoming embittered by the provocation, Ginola has been spurred into some of the best performances of his career and will figure more than once in the shortlist for goal of the season. His performance in the Worthington Cup final was far from memorable, but in distracting two Leicester City players, he stuck to his task. He has pleased Graham and there are few harder tasks than that.



Morning glory: Ginola lets his team-mates know who is No 1 as he arrives at Tottenham Hotspur's training ground in Chigwell yesterday, after claiming the PFA Footballer of the Year award the previous night. Photograph: Max Nash

formance in the Worthington Cup final was far from memorable, but in distracting two Leicester City players, he stuck to his task. He has pleased Graham and there are few harder tasks than that.

"Everyone loves controversy, so they talk about an incident like Saturday," Ginola said. "But they do not notice that Moncur also said I was a great player. I am sure even players from Wimbledon voted for me. That is why this award means so much because it has come from the players."

"With journalists, you do interviews with them, you get to know them, so it is maybe not so impartial. But with the players, they vote from all the divisions so they don't know me. They have either voted for me because they have played against me, or just because they have seen me on the televi-

sion. That gives me a really great feeling."

It is not the first time that Ginola has won such an award. He won the equivalent in France when he was with Paris Saint-Germain in 1993-94 and received an honour arguably as great as any this season when Johan Cruyff declared him the best player in the world.

As well as the self-promotion that will come with the trophy, and a possible pay rise from his many sponsors, Ginola will be able to use the publicity to project the charitable causes for which he works. As an ambassador for the Red Cross, campaigning against landmines, he is helping to set up a match at White Hart Lane on May 19 to raise money for Kosovo refugees.

He will also hope that it helps his own cause when it comes to sitting down with his main employers this summer and negotiating a new contract. He has two years left on his present deal and likes London enough after the "small village mentality" of Newcastle to seek an extension.

"I am not certain I am wanted, then I will go straight away," he said in an interview recently. His fellow professionals have declared their feelings. Now it is up to Graham and Alan Sugar to do the same.

LAST season Francis Jeffers played in the Everton team that won The Times FA Youth Cup, beating Blackburn Rovers in the two-leg final. Today he is in Hungary with the full England squad. Tonight four teams will contest the second legs of the Youth Cup semi-finals and their players will be dreaming of following Jeffers' lead.

One player who would appear to have a good chance of emulating Jeffers one day is Gary McSheffrey, of Coventry City, who play Newcastle United at Highfield Road tonight. In the first leg at St James' Park last week, McSheffrey, 16, who lives locally, scored a hat-trick as Coventry beat the home side 4-0.

"He's one of those boys who can catch fire at any moment

Success of Jeffers provides incentive for latest crop

By NICK SZCZEPANIK

LAST season Francis Jeffers played in the Everton team that won The Times FA Youth Cup, beating Blackburn Rovers in the two-leg final. Today he is in Hungary with the full England squad. Tonight four teams will contest the second legs of the Youth Cup semi-finals and their players will be dreaming of following Jeffers' lead.

One player who would appear to have a good chance of emulating Jeffers one day is Gary McSheffrey, of Coventry City, who play Newcastle United at Highfield Road tonight. In the first leg at St James' Park last week, McSheffrey, 16, who lives locally, scored a hat-trick as Coventry beat the home side 4-0.

"He's one of those boys who can catch fire at any moment

and fortunately he did in the first leg," Richard Money, Coventry's academy director, said. The fourth was scored by Craig Strachan, son of the City manager, Gordon.

Twelve months ago Jeffers had already made an appearance as a substitute in the FA Carling Premiership. McSheffrey has been on the fringe of Strachan's first-team squad, along with Chris Kirkland and Gerry Mooney, who both missed the first leg but are in the reckoning for the game, which will be a formality, surely.

"We have to make sure we approach the game in the right manner," Money said.



and fortunately he did in the first leg," Richard Money, Coventry's academy director, said. The fourth was scored by Craig Strachan, son of the City manager, Gordon.

Twelve months ago Jeffers had already made an appearance as a substitute in the FA Carling Premiership. McSheffrey has been on the fringe of Strachan's first-team squad, along with Chris Kirkland and Gerry Mooney, who both missed the first leg but are in the reckoning for the game, which will be a formality, surely.

"We have to make sure we approach the game in the right manner," Money said.

"We have to make sure we approach the game in the right manner," Money said.

Injuries haunt Brown's build-up

By KEVIN MCCARRA

WHAT benefit can Scotland gain from the match with Germany in Bremen tomorrow? "We hope to prove the strength in depth of our squad," Craig Brown, the manager, said. Given his choice of reactions, he preferred to be wry. The alternative would have been exasperation. It is normal for Scotland to find their possibilities whittled away, but the present circumstances threaten to reduce them to sawdust.

When naming his party an entire possible team, with a couple of substitutes to spare, was unavailable through injury. Now, the survivors are being picked off. Craig Burley, Matt Elliott, David Hopkin, Neil McCann and Jackie McNamara did not survive the weekend matches for their clubs and all withdrew yesterday. Plausible replacements are as scarce as men in husky health and Brown made just one addition to the squad.

The eligibility of Colin Cameron, of Heart of Midlothian, may owe something to the fact that he has only lately returned after missing most of this season with a persistent pelvic strain.

The ministrations of a French osteopath brought about his recovery, but the midfielder player had not expected promotion to his country's colours and is at present without his passport. It has been submitted with an application for the visa that he will need to visit in-laws in the Middle East this summer. In addition to collecting his boots from Tynecastle, he also had to acquire a temporary passport yesterday morning.

It is Brown's intention to keep a core of experience in the team and, where the starting line-up is concerned, he will limit the number of experiments. Neither of the uncapped goalkeepers, Alan Main and Robert Douglas, is expected to make his debut since Brown feels that Neil Sullivan would benefit from a prolonged, hair-raising exposure to the Germans.

There are, however, certain changes that the manager is bound to make. Last month, Scotland lost a European championship qualifying tie to the Czech Republic, their first defeat at home in a championship match since 1987. The status quo cannot survive untouched in such circumstances.

Tomorrow, Brown will give Don Hutchison, of Everton, his first full appearance for Scotland, as a forward.

Umbro takeover puts cloud over £15m Shearer deal

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

A TAKEOVER of Umbro, the sports manufacturer, has placed a question mark over the Manchester-based company's multimillion-pound boot and clothing deals with Alan Shearer and Michael Owen, which were signed only last year. Advisers acting for both players are understood to be seeking clarification over the buyout.

After months of speculation over its future and a financial restructuring, Umbro confirmed yesterday that it had been bought for £90 million by Doughty Hanson, an independent fund management company. The new owner is expected to continue to develop Umbro as a football brand.

Shearer, the Newcastle United and England captain, still has another 13 years left to run on his deal, which was agreed last season for £15 million, while Owen, the Liverpool

striker, has a five-year deal worth £5 million, but both are believed to want to talk to the new owner because of concerns over changing personnel. In signing for Umbro, the pair rejected bigger financial offers from Nike and adidas, among others, who will monitor the situation closely.

The takeover is not expected to affect Umbro's £50 million five-year agreement with the Football Association to provide the England kit, or their similar relationship with Manchester United. Staff at Umbro have yet to be told if they are to maintain their positions but the new management will include Peter McGuigan, a former president of Reebok, Mark Corbridge, former financial director of Newcastle United, and Chris Ronnie, who previously worked for Diadora.

McCarthy still does not know if there is anything worth making plans for, in any case, as Uefa has formed a task force to deal with the impact of conflict in Serbia on the European championship. Uefa has told the Football Association of Ireland that it will not make a ruling until May 11 on the fate of the group eight qualifying games against Yugoslavia and Macedonia, both scheduled to take place in Dublin in early June.

McCarthy and his squad have no option but to get on with preparations for something that may not even happen. The manager admitted: "We just don't know what is going to happen in June."

Mick McCarthy, the Ireland manager, will have to make do without Roy Keane and several other key personnel for the international against Sweden in Dublin tomorrow.

McCarthy still does not know if there is anything worth making plans for, in any case, as Uefa has formed a task force to deal with the impact of conflict in Serbia on the European championship. Uefa has told the Football Association of Ireland that it will not make a ruling until May 11 on the fate of the group eight qualifying games against Yugoslavia and Macedonia, both scheduled to take place in Dublin in early June.

McCarthy and his squad have no option but to get on with preparations for something that may not even happen. The manager admitted: "We just don't know what is going to happen in June."

McCarthy still does not know if there is anything worth making plans for, in any case, as Uefa has formed a task force to deal with the impact of conflict in Serbia on the European championship. Uefa has told the Football Association of Ireland that it will not make a ruling until May 11 on the fate of the group eight qualifying games against Yugoslavia and Macedonia, both scheduled to take place in Dublin in early June.

McCarthy and his squad have no option but to get on with preparations for something that may not even happen. The manager admitted: "We just don't know what is going to happen in June."

Richards takes office

DAVE RICHARDS, the Sheffield Wednesday chairman, was installed as the chairman of the FA Premier League yesterday. His appointment came after a meeting of the chairmen from the Premier League's 20 clubs. Richards had been acting chairman since the enforced resignations of Sir John Quinton, the former chairman, and Peter Leaver, the former chief executive, who left after agreeing a deal concerning television rights without the consultation of the clubs.

Newcastle United are vying with Middlesbrough for the signature of Oleg Luzhny, the Dynamo Kiev defender. A Newcastle delegation, including Ruud Gullit, the manager, was in London yesterday negotiating personal terms with the Ukraine captain.

Luzhny has already spoken to Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, about a possible move. Liverpool have initiated moves to bring Vladimir Smicer, the Czech Republic international, to Anfield. Gérard Houllier, the Liverpool manager, has targeted Smicer, who plays for Lens, as a replacement for Steve McManaman, who will join Real Madrid at the end of the season.

Mike Dean, the referee, has reported Bristol City to the Football Association after the violent scenes that marked the end of their Nationwide League first division home defeat by Birmingham City on Saturday. Dean claims that both he and his two assistants were hit by coins thrown from the home fans' end as they left the pitch.

Luzhny has already spoken to Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, about a possible move. Liverpool have initiated moves to bring Vladimir Smicer, the Czech Republic international, to Anfield. Gérard Houllier, the Liverpool manager, has targeted Smicer, who plays for Lens, as a replacement for Steve McManaman, who will join Real Madrid at the end of the season.

Mike Dean, the referee, has reported Bristol City to the Football Association after the violent scenes that marked the end of their Nationwide League first division home defeat by Birmingham City on Saturday. Dean claims that both he and his two assistants were hit by coins thrown from the home fans' end as they left the pitch.

Luzhny has already spoken to Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, about a possible move. Liverpool have initiated moves to bring Vladimir Smicer, the Czech Republic international, to Anfield. Gérard Houllier, the Liverpool manager, has targeted Smicer, who plays for Lens, as a replacement for Steve McManaman, who will join Real Madrid at the end of the season.

Mike Dean, the referee, has reported Bristol City to the Football Association after the violent scenes that marked the end of their Nationwide League first division home defeat by Birmingham City on Saturday. Dean claims that both he and his two assistants were hit by coins thrown from the home fans' end as they left the pitch.

Mike Dean, the referee, has reported Bristol City to the Football Association after the violent scenes that marked the end of their Nationwide League first division home defeat by Birmingham City on Saturday. Dean claims that both he and his two assistants were hit by coins thrown from the home fans' end as they left the pitch.

Mike Dean, the referee, has reported Bristol City to the Football Association after the violent scenes that marked the end of their Nationwide League first division home defeat by Birmingham City on Saturday. Dean claims that both he and his two assistants were hit by coins thrown from the home fans' end as they left the pitch.

FROM £25,505 EVEN THE PRICE ISN'T AN OBSTACLE.

The New Discovery Active Cornering Enhancement (ACE).

Electronic Traction Control (ETC) and the Td5 engine. 01600 310 110. www.landrover.co.uk



*ACE not standard on all models. Model shown GS with accessories. £23,205.

SNOOKER: MAVERICK PLAYS SAFE TO ADVANCE TO QUARTER-FINAL AGAINST PARROTT

O'Sullivan grows in confidence

THE tabloid journalists waited, camped in the front row of the interview room. What would Ronnie O'Sullivan say this time? Repeat his intention to retire, or maybe describe in great detail how depressed he continues to feel with the game and life in general?

"I'm a lot happier and getting more and more confident all the time," O'Sullivan said after completing a 13-8 victory over Joe Perry to earn a place in the quarter-finals of the Embassy world championship at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday.

Once again O'Sullivan's mood swings off the table proved as unpredictable as his form on it. "The practice I put in before the championship is beginning to pay off and, in phases, I'm starting to feel really good," he said. "I've got most of my troubles away now," he said.

O'Sullivan's upbeat approach was in stark contrast to

the dejected stance that he adopted after a 10-3 win over Leo Fernandez in the first round. O'Sullivan often finds motivation difficult to generate and withdrew from two events earlier this season, the United Kingdom championship and German Masters, citing "physical and mental exhaustion". However, those who dismiss him as a realistic contender for the world title underestimate his innate skill.

Some of O'Sullivan's answers were clearly more considered, such as the respectful comments reserved for John Parrott, his quarter-final opponent. They have met on eight previous occasions and Parrott has prevailed six times, including a 13-4 landslide in the last 16 of the 1994 world championship. "John is a great player and one of the toughest there is to beat. I'll have to tighten up to stand any chance of beating him but I'm definitely feeling more comfortable

with the surroundings here," O'Sullivan said.

In converting a 9-7 overnight lead over Perry, O'Sullivan eschewed risky showmanship in favour of a more workmanlike approach, although he did compile breaks of 72 and 42 in moving 12-8 ahead.



O'Sullivan: contender

Perry, who battled hard without ever quite threatening to repeat his surprise win over Steve Davis, led 62-9 in the 21st frame with only three reds remaining. O'Sullivan laid the snooker he needed on the last red, Perry failed to escape and O'Sullivan fashioned a 35 clearance to seal it on the black.

With Perry's departure, Nick Walker, the world No 71 from Chester, became the last unknown in the event but he also perished, beaten 13-7 by Mark Williams. The Welshman, who has already won the Irish Open, Welsh Open and Thailand Masters this season has matured into a fearsome player.

"I've got as good a shout as anyone left in the championship and I am sure that I'll never arrive here in a better frame of mind than this year," Williams, who won all four frames necessary in the concluding session, said.

Williams advances to meet Ken Doherty, his conqueror in the semi-finals last year.

Stephen Hendry, six times the world champion, played himself into a position of strength entering his final session against James Wattana last night, while Stephen Lee, enjoying a commanding 11-5 advantage over Alan McManus, also appeared to be bound for the quarter-finals.

Wattana held Hendry at 7-7, spectacularly accounting for the twelfth frame with a 110 clearance, but with a vintage response to danger, Hendry won the closing two frames of the afternoon with contributions of 90 and 61 to afford himself some breathing space at 9-7.



Williams: contender

Kevin Eason on the man who is too big for Formula One

Wurz unhappy to be cast as makeweight

He looks more like a basketball player than a racing driver, all gangly arms and endless legs that sprout from a pair of size 11 boots. In the world of Formula One, Alexander Wurz is a giant capable of looking down on almost everybody else in the pit lane, from his fellow drivers right down to Bernie Ecclestone, the sport's diminutive ringmaster.

But Wurz's bulk is jeopardising his place among the substantially smaller elite of motor racing. Every extra pound is weight that slows him and his Benetton down in a grand prix and the team's engineers are working hard to find ways to shed the excess before the third round of the world championship, the San Marino Grand Prix at Imola next weekend, in probably the most high-technology version of WeightWatchers ever recorded.

At the opening grand prix of 1999 in Australia, Wurz and his car weighed in at 20kg more than the Formula One minimum of 600kg. His engineers said that the penalty for that excess would be a second lap more around the Albert Park circuit in Melbourne than Wurz's teammate, Giancarlo Fisichella, who is six inches shorter and 12kg lighter.

Even though engineers had shaved pounds off the Benetton by the next race in

Brazil, it was still 14kg too heavy with Wurz the only six-footer on the grid. The result was another time penalty that even the talent of the young Austrian struggled to overcome.

It is not Wurz's fault: he looks a thoroughbred, lean and tanned, and clearly six feet and an inch of muscle. He cannot lose any more weight, he says, but when you are tall, you are simply heavier: 82.5kg or almost 185lb, in Wurz's case.

'I'm not going to cut off any limbs just to get under the weight'

To gauge how much bigger he is than his rivals, check on Johnny Herbert, who could double as a jockey in his spare time, his slender 5ft 6in frame whittled down to just 65.5kg, or 145lb.

Wurz, 24, not only looks out of place in the pit lane, gazing down on to the tops of heads, but he has had to come to terms with the fact that he is effectively the wrong size for his sport. Put some of the most famous racing drivers in a room, such as Jackie Stewart,

Stirling Moss and John Surtees, and they would not look out of place auditioning for a part as one of the Munchkins in *The Wizard of Oz*.

"My biggest problem is weight. It is like running a marathon with a rucksack on your back with five kilos inside it. You just can't make the same time as a lighter man. I can't lose a single kilo more as my body fat is right down to eight per cent, when other athletes have about ten per cent. I'm almost too big for Formula One," he said.

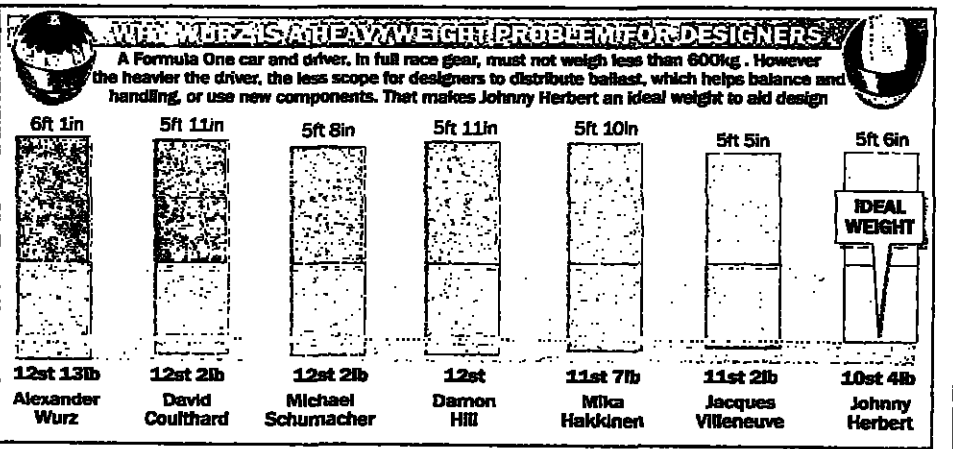
"Last year the car was lighter but when we were working on the new car and fitting me, we put the car on the scales and got a shock. I have worked really hard to get as light as I could. I could get even lighter if I lost muscle but that's not what we want because I need the strength and fitness. Right now the team is struggling to take weight out of the car in time for Imola so I can compete at least on equal terms."

"That's the disadvantage of being tall, but I am not going to cut off any limbs just to get under the weight even though some people say I could have an operation to make me shorter."

With surgery sensibly ruled out, the target for the engineers at the Benetton factory at Enstone, in Oxfordshire, is to examine each individual component in the car to discover whether they can shave even the merest few ounces. "If you can make a part just five grams lighter, it is a small contribution to getting rid of that 20 kilos," Wurz said. "We have to do it if I am going to have a chance this season."



Wurz's height has led to no end of problems in trying to make the optimum weight for grand prix racing



EQUESTRIANISM

King injured in Saumur fall

MARY KING, the Olympic three-day event rider, has broken her wrist and ankle in a crashing fall at the Saumur three-day event in France on Saturday. King was also concussed in the fall.

Her injuries were sustained when King William, the horse on which she won Badminton seven years ago, somersaulted after hitting a rail hard at fence 15.

King is likely to be out of the saddle for several weeks, which means that she will miss the inaugural Chatsworth Horse Trials later this month.

She had not entered for Badminton this year as her two leading horses, Star Appeal and King Solomon, are still returning to fitness after being on the sidelines since last year because of injury.

Blyth Tait, of New Zealand, the world and Olympic cham-

Champion and one of the favourites for Badminton, which gets under way next week, saw a £160,000 bonus slip from his grasp when he and Aspyring finished runner-up to Karen O'Connor on Prince Panache.

at the Rolex Kentucky three-day event on Sunday. Having won Burghley last September on Chesterfield, Tait was in line for the bonus, which is offered to any rider winning Burghley, Kentucky and Badminton in a 12-month span.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 49

FEAGUE

(b) To beat or whip. Also transferred.

GAZON

(a) An adapted form of gazon, a sod or piece of turf, used in fortification, with mistaken sense.

GROSET

(c) A gooseberry.

FASCINATION

(a) The binding up of a limb, etc., with bandages. From the Latin *fascia*, a band, strip or fillet.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

1... Bg2+ 2. Kf1 Rg3! wins as if 3. h3 Rg3 and Black continues 4... Rh3 and ... Rh1 mate. White tried 3. Nxd6 but after 3... R3g7 the threats along the g-file are decisive.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Racism's poetic justice

Counterblast BBC2, 7.30pm

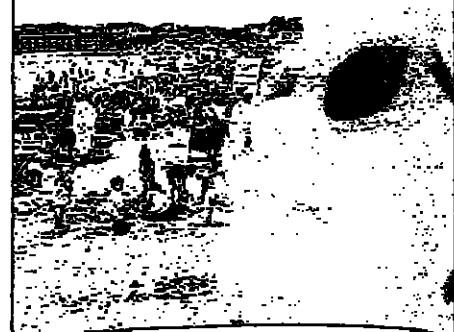
Poet and performer Linton Kwesi Johnson reflects on 25 years of black campaigning. He covers many of the same themes explored in his poetry: tackling of the same themes explored in his poetry: tackling of issues such as equality, justice and corruption. Johnson argues that the time is right to set up an independent black political organisation to highlight injustices over the years thanks to political campaigns, he warns against complacency. "As we enter the 21st century," he says, "we cannot afford to be complacent in the face of discrimination that simply won't go away."

Ready To Wear: Suit U, Sir BBC2, 9pm

A new series taking the sartorial approach to social history gives us this colourful but ultimately slightly unsatisfying scamper through the evolution of the gentlemen's suit from the 1950s to today. Heavily reliant on quotes from now-dead style magazines, it touches on such matters as the rise of the ready-to-wear suit, the first made-to-measure suit (for the first job, wedding, etc), how high street tailors such as Burton dominated the scene for those beyond the Savile Row pale, and how extreme styles, materials and never went away, came to visit in the 1960s and never went away, almost always clean, and intentionally like those of the 1950s and 1960s than those of the intervening decades. Bound to provoke embarrassment among male viewers of a certain age, and howls of laughter among their juniors and families.

Modern Times BBC2, 9.30pm

Think of England is a thoroughly entertaining and at times surprising film by Martin Parr, in which he pursues the idea of Englishness, the length and breadth of the land, from the (and arguably, barney) Henley, to a Blackpool which looks as though it is about to be blown away during a



Modern Times pursues the idea of Englishness (BBC2, 9.30pm)

downpour, from village fairs (again washed out) to loud and lewd behaviour by "bored youths". Parr generally lets his subjects speak for themselves. Does a single characteristic or common attitude emerge? Beyond a determination not to let the weather prevent us from "enjoying ourselves", perhaps not, but there is more than enough to keep you entertained for 50 minutes and to fuel debate as we approach the elections to the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly.

A Life of Grime BBC1, 9.30pm (Ireland, 10.55pm)

Haringey's Environmental Health Officers Alison and Simon certainly earn their salaries in tonight's second film about the department's work. They must deal with a flat in Muswell Hill in which a dead man has lain rotting for weeks. Alison has to go through the tenant's belongings to find out whether he has any living family, or more prosaically, whether he has enough money to pay for his funeral. Stories continued from last week include Rosalia's pursuit of an illegal trader in goat meat and Mike's battle with an 81-year-old Polish war veteran whose home is a gigantic rubbish heap and who likes it that way. Tony Patrick

RADIO CHOICE

How Ticked Am I? Radio 4, 11.30am

By transposing the last two words in Ken Dodd's familiar catchphrase and adding a question mark, the title of Mark Radcliffe's series about northern comedians takes us out of the realms of Duddery. What Radcliffe is doing, in effect, is use his own yardstick to measure a comedian's particular skill. He has already reassessed the styles of funny men such as Jimmy Clitheroe and Les Dawson. This morning it is Sandy Powell. I thought Powell was a middle-of-the-road, chuckle-monger, eminently likeable, almost always clean, and intentionally like the most ventriloquist in the world. It is a pity he is remembered mainly for his plaintive catchphrase: "Can you hear me, mother?" I wonder what Radcliffe will say about him this morning.

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30am Chris Moyles 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiteley 2.00pm Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Dave Pearce 6.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.00 Newsbeat 8.00 The Evening Session 10.00 Digital Update 10.10 John Peel 10.10am The Quorum Elizabeth Hall in London 12.00 The Breezeblock 2.00am Clive Warren 4.00 Scott Mills

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Lynn Parsons 5.05 Richard Allison 7.00 Carl Davis 8.00 Nigel Oden. News from the keyboard world 9.00 Duke Ellington. Such Sweet Thunder (2/3) 10.00 Whicker's New World. See Choice 10.30 Richard Allison. Favourite sounds 12.00 Kathie Lesterish 3.00am Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 Breakfast 8.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 News 1.00pm Ian Payne 4.00 Drive 7.00 News 8.00 The Tuesday Match. Coverage of the night's soccer action, including Crewe v Bristol City and Port Vale v Watford 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Crime Fighters 1.00pm Anna Rasmussen 4.00 The Sports Zone 7.00 The World of Formula 1 8.00 Cheating Hearts with Jayne Irving 10.00 James White 1.00am Ian Collins

VIRGIN

6.30am The Breakfast Show 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbott 4.00 Hamel Scott 6.45 Pete and Geoff 10.00 Gary Davies 1.00am Richard Allen 4.30 Phil Kennedy

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey's Easier Classics. Soothing music and information updates 8.00 Henry Kelly. The Hall of Fame Hour and CD of the Week. 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. James Jones introduces 'favourites' 2.00pm Concerto 2.00pm James Cuck. Continuous Classics and Afternoon Romance 6.30pm Newswatch. Sport, finance and news, with John Burningham 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven 8.00pm Burning Bridges. Classical sound 9.00pm Evening Concert. Elgar (Cockaigne Overture), Handel (Music for the Royal Fireworks), Langford (London Minstrelsy), Haydn (Symphony No 104 in D major), Mozart (Eine Kleine Nachtmusik), 11.00pm Mann at Night. Music through the night hours 2.00am Concerto. Brahms (Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat major) (1) 3.00 Mark Griffiths. The Early Breakfast Show

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air With Sean Rafferty. Music includes Stravinsky's *Serenade* for Wind Instruments, Joe van Immerseel playing Clementi's *Piano Sonata* in G, Op 37 No 2, and music by Beethoven 9.00 Masterworks with Peter Hootby. Corelli (Concerto grosso in G minor, Op 6 No 8 Christmas Concerto); 9.14 Bachmann (Symphonic Dances); 9.47 Beethoven (Adeleide); 9.59 Bernstein (Gernade) 10.30 Artist of the Week. Pianist Emma Johnson 11.00 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 12.00 Composer of the Week: Duke Ellington 1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music 1.40pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. The fourth of eight recitals given last year at St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, featuring American music: Joanna MacGregor, piano. Ives (Bad Resolutions and Good One, Violin, Three Dances Sonata); 1.30 Short Stories Richard Baker looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's

When blonde ambition isn't quite enough

Everyone wants to be Hollywood's reigning blonde. Few have what it takes. ITV's biopic, *The Blonde Bombshell*, charting Diana Dors's struggle to get Hollywood's studio bosses to confirm her as Britain's answer to Marilyn Monroe, is a reminder of just how difficult it can be to make the grade — even when your talent is as big as the sun.

By chance, it was shown just a few days after one of the most recent applicants for the crown, the improbably outsize Pamela Anderson, decided to defile herself back to her God-given dimensions. The former *Playboy* model's decision to rethink her image may also have had something to do with the response to her big screen debut, *Barb Wire*. Acting is not yet in Anderson's repertoire, said *The Times*. The *Guardian* thought "the whole thing resembles *Mad Max*

with brassieres". See? Just having breasts that resemble beachballs is not enough.

Can anyone actually remember a film that Diana Dors was in? I cannot recall ever having seen her in a rainy Sunday afternoon repeat. I just about remember her — she must have been in her late forties or early fifties by then — as a contestant on a celebrity quiz show: bloated like an over-puffed tyre, with icicle-white hair, she looked less like Britain's answer to Marilyn Monroe than Britain's answer to Elvis Presley.

She was certainly not Jean Harlow, let alone a Kim Novak or Grace Kelly. You cannot imagine Alfred Hitchcock, who hated "the obvious blonde", pestering Diana Dors to come for a screen test for *Rear Window*. Ephraim Katz, the film historian, said of Dors that "the public remained largely apathetic toward her frank, exaggerated sexuality". Ouch!

But in spite of this, Dors — even as a guest — had that something that made her stand out from the pack: a luminous smile, and a sauciness that stopped just — just! — short of cheap. Pulling off such a cheery act takes a rare talent. Selling it is a high-wire act. Pretending to have it is like performing that same high-wire act blindfold. This gives you some idea of just how big was the mountain that Keesley Hove had to climb as the junior Dors (Amanda Redman takes over as Dors senior in tonight's second instalment).

Now Hove is blessed with a buxom body, enhanced here by a bra that left her breasts pointing out into the world like two searchlights. This left her in the awkward situation of having to act like a coquettish 19-year-old — the age at which Diana Dors made her first film when Hove clearly no longer pos-

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

sesses the body of a teenager. So while trying to hint at what it was that the world saw in Dors (this was the easy bit), Hove also had to shrink herself a little to try to look like a schoolgirl — the way tall women married to short men develop a subconscious stoop over the years to camouflage the disparity in their heights. It brings no shame to Keesley Hove to say that she doesn't quite have the cheesy

sauciness bordering on tartness that was part of Dors's DNA. If she did she would probably be competing for roles with Pamela Anderson rather than appearing — very watchably — in TV adaptations of *Our Mutual Friend*.

Sexiness should fall like leaves from a tree. Here everyone was trying just that bit too hard. And Rupert Graves, for all his shouting and punching, still seemed just that bit too smooth a diamond to be Diana's first husband, Dennis Hamilton. The production was sumptuous — in fact so sumptuous that the vintage cars and immaculate 1950s artefacts all looked exactly like the lovingly nursed period props they are. It ran for two hours, but rarely exuded the brassy, backstage sexiness which fertilised Dors's career.

But if many things went wrong in Diana Dors's life, at least she had the good fortune not to be born pretty and Swedish. In

Equinox Sweden, Sex and the Disappearing Doctors (Channel 4), we met Elsie Soderberg. She is one of the many hapless victims of Sweden's recently exposed eugenics programme, which ran from 1935 to 1975. The Swedes thought the smart way to rid the population of the genetically ill, of unsuitable parents and of the feeble-minded, was to sterilise them; also, the welfare state was in its infancy, and the State didn't want the dependants of these unsavoury types taking advantage of it.

So Sweden sterilised some 63,000 people, almost all of them women, and working-class. Doctors willingly took part in this well-intentioned barbarity.

But Elsie wasn't even one of the many unmarried pregnant girls who were sterilised in return for being given properly conducted abortions. Elsie's crime was being pretty: the State feared that with a face

like hers she would be bound to get up to hanky-panky sooner rather than later, thereby burdening society with unwanted children. So they did what any demagogic government might do: they sterilised her. She was 16.

Later, Elsie became a prostitute. Tracked down by the film's director, Fisher Dillek, the now retired Elsie still cannot work out why she was chosen to be cursed by the State. "I don't feel you are worth as much as other people," she tells him. "You lose your pride as a human being." The sterilisations were repealed in 1975 not because doctors rebelled but because Swedish feminists demanded the right to abortion and because of the arrival of the contraceptive pill.

It makes you wonder what those Stockholm bureaucrats would have done after one glimpse of Diana Dors's cleavage. Especially one they found out she wasn't even a natural blonde.

- BBC1**
- 6.00am Business Breakfast (58005)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (7) (60404)
9.00 Killy (7) (507398)
9.45 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook (7) (70027)
10.15 The Vanessa Show (7) (8095422)
11.00 News: Weather (7) (5451602)
11.05 City Hospital (7) (9651331)
11.55 News: Weather (7) (2748814)
12.00 Going for a Song (5437001)
12.25pm Just a Minute (7) (8888878)
12.55 The Weather Show (7) (1168756)
1.00 News: Weather (7) (10981)
1.30 Regional News: Weather (5806008)
1.40 Neighbours (7) (9571147)
2.00 Through the Keyhole (7) (4737)
2.30 Snooker: World Championship The last two quarter-finals (7) (858902)
3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (8041602)
3.45 Arthur (2038840) 4.10 Rurals (1882824) 4.20 Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (5345114) 4.35 G Force (7046447)
5.00 Newsround (5078244) 5.10 Trading Places: French Exchange (2838843)
5.35 Neighbours (7) (104534)
6.00 Six O'Clock News: Weather (7) (466)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (718)
7.00 Boys on Holiday David Gower and Rory Munn visit Australia and Martin Clunes visits Montana (7) (8553)
7.30 EastEnders (7) (602)
8.00 Airport Behind the scenes at Heathrow (7) (4973)
8.30 Children's Hospital: Birmingham New series (7) (3008)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (7) (8534)
9.30 Party Election Broadcast By the Conservative Party (7) (882088)
9.35 **CHOICE** A Life of Crime The work of environmental health officers at Henley court (7) (342824)

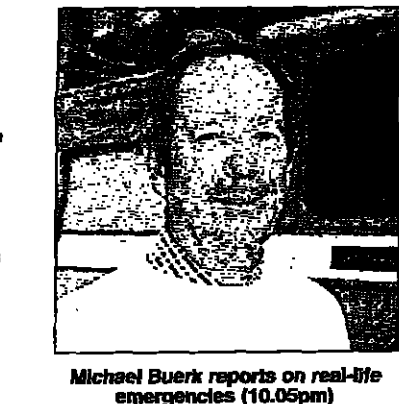
- BBC2**
- 7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Noddy in Toyland (80422) 7.30 Top Cat (8540973) 7.55 Blue Peter (8805465)
8.20 Dastardly and Muttley (8510737)
8.40 Poka Dot Strips (3093755) 8.50 Pingu (3082640) 9.00 Daytime On Two: Spanish Gladiators (4531485) 9.10 Go for It (4511621) 9.25 Music Makers (9173027)
9.45 Numberline (7981447) 10.00 Teletubbies (58244) 10.30 Daytime On Two: Watch (3538992) 10.45 Science Zone (5051973) 11.05 Space Ark (5472185) 11.15 Megamaths (1431737)
11.35 Isobel (4578640) 11.55 Techno (2875175) 12.15pm Number Adventures (7689805) 12.30 Working Lunch (22027)
1.00 Oakie Doke (38731485)
1.10 Snooker: World Championship Quarter-final coverage (956350)
2.30 The Art (5854282)
2.38 Tales from the Net (8826176)
2.40 News: Weather (7) (8223089)
2.45 Westminster (7) (5882621)
3.25 News: Weather (7) (5139227)
3.30 Snooker: World Championship Further quarter-final coverage (930971)
6.00 Heartbreak High (7) (53824)
6.45 Tales from the Net (7) (21678)
6.45 Snooker: World Championship Further quarter-final coverage (937911)
7.30 **CHOICE** Kwest Johnston exposes racial discrimination (7) (244)
8.00 University Challenge (7) (5843)
8.30 The Antiques Show (7) (4350)

- ITV WEST**
- 5.30am ITV Morning News (95195)
6.00 GMT (2440008)
9.25 Trisha (7) (319379)
12.15 This Morning (7) (49700447)
12.30pm ITV News (7) (766531)
12.30 ITV News: Weather (7) (2267485)
12.55 Shortland Street (1346263)
1.30 Home and Away (7) (16753089)
1.55 The Jerry Springer Show Outrageous American talk show (7) (5611447)
2.40 Wheel of Fortune (7) (2600602)
3.10 ITV News Headlines (7) (5318398)
3.15 ITV News (7) (5317899)
3.20 City: Masey (507282) 3.25 Rosie and Joe (604718) 3.40 The Wombles (4661263) 3.45 Scooby and Scrappy Doo (7567282) 4.10 Snap (7837843)
4.40 The Quick Trick Show (2557089)
5.00 Home and Away (7) (16753089)
5.30 Can You Keep a Secret? (7) (821)
5.58 ITV Weather (443973)
6.00 ITV News (7) (732379)
6.25 Party Election Broadcast By the Conservative Party (811485)
6.29 ITV Evening News: Weather (7) (114)
7.00 Emmerdale (7) (3621)
7.30 Doll's House Toyah Wilcox charts the history of dolls' houses (1/3) (7) (398)
8.00 The Bill Boulton is accused of killing a suspect who attacked him during a raid. With Russell Boulton (7) (482)

- CENTRAL**
- As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Central News: Weather (7) (8874000) 12.55 Home and Away (7) (2267485) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (7) (4436992) 2.10-2.40 Winners (3/6) (7) (8940926) 3.15-3.20 Central News: Weather (7) (5317899) 3.30-3.40 Central News: Weather (7) (732379) 3.45-4.00 30 Minutes (398) 11.15-11.25 Central News (7) (227244) 11.25-12.25 Renegade (214640) 2.00am Wish You Were Here (7) (7) (8370003) 2.25 McGillicuddy's Way (389138) 2.50 Football Place (7) (220577) 3.45-4.00 Jollyfunder 190 (7) (325041) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (9101374)
- WESTCOUNTRY**
- As HTV West except: 12.15pm News (7) (766531) 12.27-12.30 Illuminations (958978) 12.55-1.25 Lunchtime Live (7) (2267485) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (7) (4436992) 2.10-2.40 Home and Away (7) (8940926) 3.15-3.20 Westcountry News: Weather (7) (5317899) 4.58-5.00 Birthday People (404704) 5.30 Judi Splinters (1/10) (627) 6.00-6.25 Westcountry Live: Weather (7) (732379) 6.30-6.40 The 19th (7) (8874000) 11.15-11.25 Westcountry News: Weather (7) (227244) 11.25-11.30 Power Game (528505) 11.55-12.25 Campus Cops (842602)
- STATION**
- As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 News (7) (766531) 12.55-1.25 Meridian Tonight (7) (732379) 7.25 Weather (380505) 7.30-8.00 Decision Time (7) (398) 11.15 News: Weather (7) (227244) 11.25 Cyber Cafe (529850) 11.55-12.25 Pier Pressure (7) (842602) 6.00am-5.30p Freescreen (7) (39770)
- ANGLES**
- As HTV West except: 12.15-12.30 Angles News (766531) 5.25-5.40 Angles (802826) 6.00-6.25 News (7) (732379) 7.30-8.00 Go Fishing with John Wilson (398) 11.15-11.25 Angles News and Weather (7) (227244) 11.55-12.25 Taxi (842602)

- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.00am News and Sport (5301669)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (95534)
9.00 Schools: Science in Focus (9149060)
9.20 Express (372862) 9.30 Eureka (7971080) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (793843) 10.00 The Number Crew (7884534) 10.10 Chuck Wallace's 10.10 Age Spread (1188282) 10.25 Haul Your Tongue (1193737) 10.40 GNVQ: Is It For You? (9087398) 11.00 First Edition V (8973805) 11.15 Stage One (8896756)
11.30 Powerhouse (7) (2737)
12.00 Sesame Street (7) (82911)
12.30pm Bewitched (7) (17195)
1.00 Suddenly Susan (7) (8821)
1.30 Whoosh! Short film about a woman with a passion for the Beach Boys (58589718)
1.40 I Want You (1981) Dana Andrews and Dorothy McGuire star in this drama about the effects of the Korean War on a prosperous small-town family. Directed by Mark Robson (7) (32855718)
3.30 Collectors' Lot Debbie Thewer meets a Frank Sinatra fanatic (7) (992)
4.00 Fitzen to the (7) (517)
4.30 Countdown (7) (703114)
4.55 Ricki Lake (7) (881847)
5.30 Pet Rescue (7) (263)
6.00 King of the Hill (7) (176)
6.30 Home Improvement (7) (886176)
6.55 Planet Pop (239027)
7.00 Channel 4 News: Weather (7) (805973)
7.55 Margaret Thatcher: Where Am I Now? Cartoonist Steve Bell's depiction of the Thatcher years (7) (791602)
8.00 Brookside: Jenny has a confession to make (7) (588)
8.30 Driven Featuring a road-test of the Lotus GS 300 Sport, plus a look at reducing fuel costs (2/15) (7) (6718)
9.00 The Decision A new social worker is appointed to deal with David, a 15-year-old who has spent a third of his life in care (2/3) (7) (678843)
10.15 X-Rated Ricki (7) (527391)
11.00 The 11 O'Clock Show (463089)

- CHANNEL 5**
- 6.00am 5 News and Sport (5301669)
7.00 WideWorld (7) (2251485)
7.30 Milkshake! (2049843)
7.35 Muppet Babies: (4470756)
8.00 HavaKazoo (7) (8250699)
8.30 Dappledown Farm (7) 5 News Update (8242060)
9.00 The Roseanne Show (5963398)
9.50 Russell Grant's Postcards (7) (8364331)
9.55 The Body and the Beautiful James (851376) (7) (1723485)
10.25 Sunset Beach (7) (4655282)
11.15 Lanza (336165)
12.00 5 News at Noon (7) (8253178)
12.30pm Family Affairs (7) (7) 5 News Update (583655)
1.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (4221737)
1.50 McMillan and Wife: Death of a Monster — Birth of a Legend (TVM, 1974) The heir to a Highland estate murders his grandfather — but doesn't count on the intervention of visiting couple Mac and Sally. Light-hearted mystery, starring Rock Hudson and Susan Saint James. Directed by Dan Peltier. 5 News Update (2836244)
3.15 The Trip to Bountiful (1985) Oscar-winning drama, starring Geraldine Page as an elderly widow who leaves behind the pressure of domestic life and returns to her small-town home. Directed by Peter Masterson (8077792)
5.20 5 News (5862737)
5.30 100 Per Cent (541640)
6.00 5 News: Weather (7) (845853)
6.30 Family Affairs (7) 5 News Update (583655)
7.00 Can We Still Be Friends? (2/15) (258089)
7.30 Wild in the USA (7) 5 News Update (583655)
8.00 Are You Being Cheated? Updates of previous shows in the series, including a return visit to the Environment Agency to find out how successful its battle against illegal waste dumping has been, an investigation into how people risk their lives to reduce electricity bills and a look at some of the more devious means that alcohol and cigarette smugglers use to hide their contraband (7) (2574737)
8.30 What Went Wrong? An autistic boy is brother who suffers from vertigo, and two frenemy combat an explosion in a 50,000 gallon fuel-storage tank. 5 News Update (2553244)
9.00 Swimming with Sharks (1994) Black comedy, with Kevin Spacey as a tyrannical film studio executive whose brutal ways finally prove too much for his well-mannered assistant, Frank Whaley. Michelle Forbes and Benicio Del Toro also star. Directed by George Huang (7) 5 News Update (4699191)
10.50 Two Gus's death is reported, leaving Booth and Agent Carter mystified (803355)
11.45 Live and Dangerous (7100485)
12.25am NFL: Europe Highlights of Amsterdam v Frankfurt (822085) 1.30 Live
12.55 Dutch Football The semi-finals of the Eredivisie Cup (5000799)
5.30 100 Per Cent (7) (6345119)



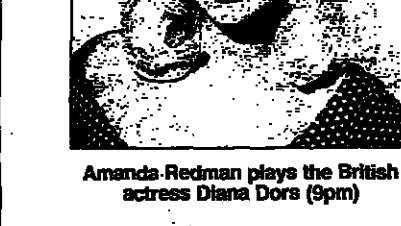
Michael Buerk reports on real-life emergencies (10.05pm)

- 10.05 999 New series, including the rescue of a girl stuck in a burning car following a freak accident on the M3 (7) (459486)
10.55 They Think It's All Over With Eddie Irvine and Bradley Walsh (7) (861398)
11.25 Snapshot: Eddie Kidd (7) (824422)
11.55 Mixed Company (1974) Family comedy about a couple who decide to adopt two very different children. Directed by Melville Shavelson (88824)
1.40am News (2705799)
1.45 BBC News (245331732)
- WALES**
- 8.30pm-7.00 Wales Today (7) (718) 9.35 Vote 82: The Debate (7) (718) 10.25 A Life of Crime (7) (793843) 10.55 999 (7) (71843)
11.45 Football: FAW Premier Cup (330899)
12.20am Snapshot: Eddie Kidd (7) (861398)
12.35 11.55 News: Weather (7) (845853)
12.40am News (2705799)
1.45 BBC News (245331732)



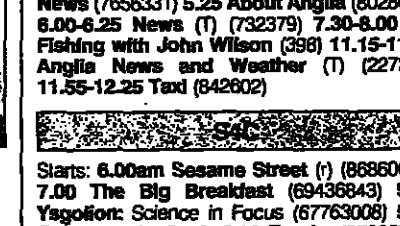
A man's suit can be a measure of his social standing (9pm)

- 9.00 **CHOICE** Ready to Wear The influence of fashion on the social history of Britain (1/5) (7) (8178)
9.30 **CHOICE** Modern Times Martin Parry documentary about English stereotypes (7) (304282)
10.20 A Little Piece of Home (7) (488027)
10.30 Party Election Broadcast By the Conservative Party (888718)
10.35 Newsnight (7) (305331)
11.18 Video Nation Stories from the Balkans (7) (879756)
11.20 Snooker: World Championship Quarter-final highlights (540002)
11.55 Weather 12.00 Despatch Book (28003)
12.30pm BBC Learning Zone: Open University: Empowerment (71062) 1.00 Living with Cracks (50751) 1.30 Inspection by Torchlight (97770) 2.00 Schools: PSHE — Lifestyles A-Z (56393)
4.00 Languages: Make French Your Business (48577) 5.00 Business and Training: Web Wise (384258) 5.45 Open University: Martin Morrison (249454)
6.10 Development Aid (7766206) 6.35 Money Grows on Trees (5860003)
- WALES**
- 11.05am-11.15 Your Assembly: The Ultimate Guide (247195)



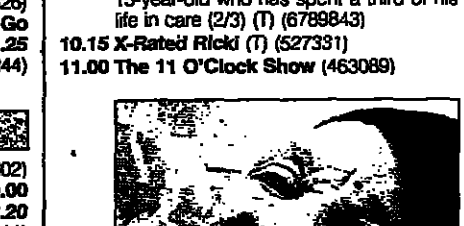
Amanda Redman plays the British actress Diana Dors (9pm)

- 9.00 The Blonde Bombshell Concluding part of the drama, chronicling the second half of Diana Dors's eventful life, including her return from Hollywood, subsequent bankruptcy and marriages to Dickie Dawson and Alan Lake. With Amanda Redman, Gary Webster and Daniel Issacs (2/2) (7) (4089)
11.00 ITV Nighty News: Weather (7) (357624)
11.12 HTV News and Weather (7) (242553)
11.30 The Thoughts of Chairman Alf (7) (75282)
12.00 The Making of Arlington Road Review of Jeff Bridges's latest film (55157)
12.30am The Haunted Flitank (71008)
12.55 The Jerry Springer Show (7) (9821751)
1.45 Judge Judy (7) (6153664)
2.30 Wish You Were Here! Including reports from Skopje, Kenya, Egypt and Australia (7) (66481)
3.00 McGillicuddy's Way (67041)
3.30 Football Extra (7) (240835)
4.20 Catch (49543080)
4.45 Night Shift (25831312)
4.55 ITV Nightscreen (7400935)
- ITV WALES**
- As HTV WEST except: 8.30pm-5.58 Family Affairs An undertaking business (2/5) (7) (821)
11.00-11.15 Wales Decides 1999 Assembly preparations in Monmouth (398)



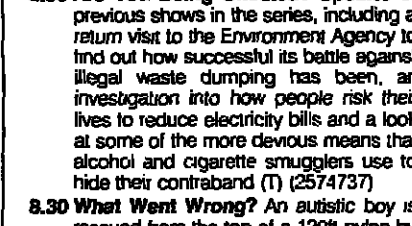
Amanda Redman plays the British actress Diana Dors (9pm)

- Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (7) (8886002) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (6945643) 9.00 Yagorl: Science in Focus (67763008) 9.20 Express (9274350) 9.30 Eureka (372862) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (793843) 10.00 The Number Crew (1379355) 10.10 Techno: Eurobeat (5618955) 10.40 GNVQ — Is It For You? (7111447) 11.00 First Edition (25821379) 11.15 Stage One (25804602) 11.30 Powerhouse (7) (80148737) 12.00 Caroline in the City (7) (8377805) 12.30pm Sesame Street (7) (8377805) 1.00 Planned Parenthood (7) (8377805) 1.30 Eureka (372862) 1.45 Scooby and Scrappy Doo (7567282) 4.10 Snap (7837843) 4.40 The Quick Trick Show (2557089) 5.00 Home and Away (7) (16753089) 5.30 Can You Keep a Secret? (7) (821) 5.58 ITV Weather (443973) 6.00 ITV News (7) (732379) 6.25 Party Election Broadcast By the Conservative Party (811485) 6.29 ITV Evening News: Weather (7) (114) 7.00 Emmerdale (7) (3621) 7.30 Doll's House Toyah Wilcox charts the history of dolls' houses (1/3) (7) (398) 8.00 The Bill Boulton is accused of killing a suspect who attacked him during a raid. With Russell Boulton (7) (482)



Habitual shoplifter Neville Weekes tries to go straight (11.35pm)

- 11.35 Electric Avenue Series profiling the people who live in an area of Bristol, South London (4/4) (7) (810867)
12.05am One-to-One Film anthology (7910867)
12.40 Brussels: Behind Closed Doors A look inside the headquarters of the European Parliament to see how member states reach consensus on new laws (3/3) (7) (610190)
1.40 Accident (1967) Drama about the aftermath of a car accident. Starring, Dirk Bogarde and Vivien Merchant. Directed by Joseph Losey (774480)
3.30 Black World The launch of a new magazine in Brazil (7) (88653)
4.00 Schools: Enter the Maths Zone (8067451) 5.15 The English Programme (9207867) 5.40 Film and Video Showcase (2351799)



Habitual shoplifter Neville Weekes tries to go straight (11.35pm)

- VIDEO Plus+ and VIDEO Plus+ codes**
The numbers after each programme are for VIDEO Plus+ recording. For more details call 0800 506070. Video Plus+ is a registered trademark of GSP Development Corporation © 1995
- HISTORY**
- 4.00pm Secrets of War: Secrets of the Sky (1999) The story of the development of the Spitfire. 4.30 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 5.00 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 5.30 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 6.00 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 6.30 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 7.00 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 7.30 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 8.00 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 8.30 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 9.00 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 9.30 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 10.00 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 10.30 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 11.00 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 11.30 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain. 12.00 The Battle of Britain: The Story of the Battle of Britain.
- CARLTON FOOD**
- 8.00am Food Network Daily 8.30am Food Network Daily 9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30am Food Network Daily 10.00am Food Network Daily 10.30am Food Network Daily 11.00am Food Network Daily 11.30am Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00pm Food Network Daily 2.30pm Food Network Daily 3.00pm Food Network Daily 3.30pm Food Network Daily 4.00pm Food Network Daily 4.30pm Food Network Daily 5.00pm Food Network Daily 5.30pm Food Network Daily 6.00pm Food Network Daily 6.30pm Food Network Daily 7.00pm Food Network Daily 7.30pm Food Network Daily 8.00pm Food Network Daily 8.30pm Food Network Daily 9.00pm Food Network Daily 9.30pm Food Network Daily 10.00pm Food Network Daily 10.30pm Food Network Daily 11.00pm Food Network Daily 11.30pm Food Network Daily 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Network Daily 1.00pm Food Network Daily 1.30pm Food Network Daily 2.00



RUGBY LEAGUE 49

Broncos' owner hopes to buck trend at Wembley

SPORT

TUESDAY APRIL 27 1999

MOTOR RACING 50

Alexander the great leaves Benetton with weighty problem



Players expected to agree to donate fees from match against Hungary to Kosovan refugees

Keegan asks England to dig deep

FROM OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT, IN BUDAPEST

THE Danube was looking a dirty shade of green yesterday, so it seemed fitting that the England squad should arrive here feeling blue. Depleted beyond measure and nervous because of the proximity of war-torn Yugoslavia, it was left to Kevin Keegan to try to accentuate the positives of a trip that is flirting with farce. He made a good start.

Wearing his heart on his sleeve as usual, the England caretaker manager suggested that the country's pampered footballers should look at the bigger picture and donate part of their match fee for the international against Hungary tomorrow night to Kosovan refugees.

It might only be a gesture, but it would be a beginning, a guarantee that whatever else happened in the run-up to a troubled fixture that nobody seems to want, England could at least go home with something to be proud of.

Match fees are not yet as inflated as the players' salaries and are calculated on a sliding scale that takes account of experience and participation in the match. It is still thought that the total given to charity may amount to £30,000. Keegan's urgings are almost certain to be ratified by the players' committee this morning.

"It is just something I believe we should do," Keegan said, "a gesture to show that we care. We are entering into an area and there is a war going on next door. This is definitely something that the England football team needs to do and I will seek out Alan Shearer and the other senior players to discuss it with them."

This, of course, is Keegan's forte, the ability to turn bad into good, to sense what is the best thing to do in an emotive situation, to avoid being niggardly. He eschews circumspection and compromise and thrives on spontaneity. In this situation, he

is exactly what his green-gilled squad needs. Most of all, he insisted yesterday that the match tomorrow was brimming with opportunities for the young players, who have inherited their places in the squad because of the mass withdrawals that have given it such an unfamiliar, inexperienced look. Added to the six players who pulled out because of assorted injuries over the weekend, Manchester United and Arsenal had already been allowed to declare David Beckham, Gary Neville, Ray Parlour and Tony Adams unavailable.

All that means that there will be new caps tomorrow. Keegan said that he would announce the team after training this morning and that his side would include at least two "youngsters". Either Kevin Phillips, the Sunderland striker, or Emile Heskey, of Leicester City, will start alongside Shearer.

Michael Gray may play on the left side of defence and if Francis Jeffers, the precocious Everton forward, gets a taste of the action he will become the second-youngest player this century to appear for England.



Keegan: in positive mood

That was Keegan's thrust: the fact that an innocuous match against a once mighty team that has taken its place among the also-rans of Europe could provide a springboard for a young player who might not otherwise have had the chance. He did not snipe at the respective club managers for withdrawing their players.

"Every manager has played ball with me," he said. "They have all asked whether they wanted the injured player to come down for a medical, but what is the point of asking someone to sit in a car for seven hours just so I can prove what his manager has already told me? I don't see the worth in antagonising managers. We have to work in tandem for the good of the league and for the England national team."

Keegan, though, was keen to express admiration and empathy

for those such as Shearer, who were desperate to play for their country whatever the occasion. "We will still have the nucleus of a good team," Keegan said, "and now it will be sprinkled with a bit of stardust. We will still take something from this game. A few of these young players are going to get on the plane home as full internationals."

"They could make a fantastic impression, others may turn in a performance where they don't let themselves down, others may offer signs it has come too quickly for them. That's down to them, not me. I can only provide them with the chance."

Certain withdrawals have been a blow to us, but we go, we play and we will send out a team with plenty of youth and enthusiasm. Alan Shearer is captain and he will respond to that, but I am more interested in how the young player making his debut up front alongside him responds to playing with

Alan. The presence of the captain is important, but it was never in any doubt. Alan is not a prima donna. He wants to play in every game and I can relate to that.

"When Don Revie was in charge and we were due to go to Ireland for a friendly, he asked me if I wanted a couple of days at home with

Ginola's French polish.....48
Injuries trouble Scots.....48
McMenamy calls on Coote.....48
Fantasy Football.....24

my family. I asked him: 'What are you trying to say?' and he explained there had been a death threat against the team from some crank. "I told him I wanted to play, to get me on the plane. It was an England game. Yes, some games are bigger than others at this level, but you have got to have the right attitude for every England match."



A solitary policeman patrols the outfield in Bridgetown. The players had already left the field when bottles were thrown after a controversial run-out. Photograph: David Gray

Forest puzzle as Evans denies applying for job

BY STEPHEN WOOD

NOTTINGHAM Forest yesterday confirmed that Roy Evans, the former Liverpool manager, was one of "three or four" candidates hoping to become the next manager at the City Ground. Last night, however, Evans insisted that he had not shown any interest in the post.

Forest, who were relegated from the FA Carling Premiership after their defeat away to Aston Villa last weekend, need to make a new managerial appointment this summer. Ron Atkinson, the present manager, announced his retirement last Saturday, to take effect from the end of the season. Yesterday lunchtime a spokesman for Forest indicated that Evans could become Atkinson's successor and the club's fourth manager since Brian Clough ended his 18-year reign in 1993.

"Roy is in the frame for the job and is one of three or four candidates," the club spokesman said. Evans, who was believed to have applied for the vacancy in January this year after Dave Bassett, Atkinson's predecessor, was sacked, initially refused to comment

but, later yesterday, denied that he had sent an application to Forest. However, Evans has been looking to return to management since he left his job as the joint-manager of Liverpool last November.

Evans was a candidate to fill the manager's vacancy at Blackburn Rovers, which went to Brian Kidd, but even if he does not put himself forward for the Forest post, there are other candidates to take control of the team in the Nationwide League first division next season.

Sammy Mellroy, the Macclesfield manager, is under consideration after taking the Moss Rose club from non-league football to the second division. David Moyes, the Preston North End manager, is another contender, while there are suggestions that Forest could opt for a managerial combination of Stuart Pearce and Nigel Clough, two of their former players.

Pearce is still on the playing staff of Newcastle United, while Clough is player-manager of Burton Albion, the Dr Martens League club.

World Cup organisers have faith in security

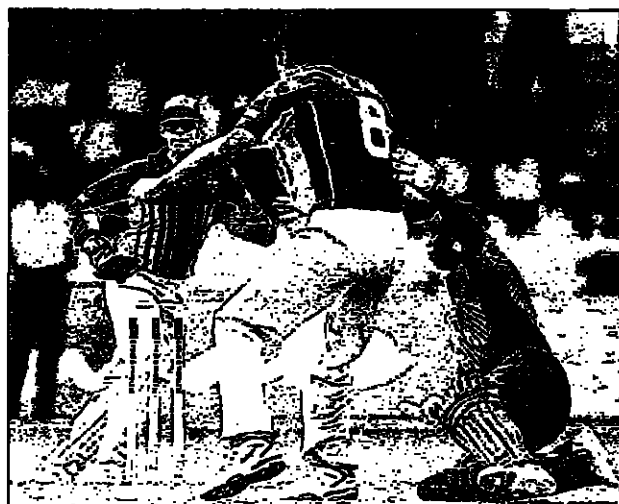
BY RICHARD HOBSON

SECURITY measures due to be implemented for the cricket World Cup will not be tightened in response to crowd trouble in the Caribbean. Michael Browning, the event manager, said that plans already in place will prevent a repeat of the frightening scenes in Guyana and Barbados over the past week that tarnished the one-day series between West Indies and Australia.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) is awaiting reports from Raman Subba Row, the match referee, but has already pledged to investigate disturbances that threatened the safety of players. Even John Howard, the Prime Minister of Australia, felt compelled to join a chorus of condemnation yesterday.

Steve Waugh described as "pure luck" the fact that no one was seriously injured when bottles rained on to the outfield in the latest incident in Bridgetown on Sunday night. "It is only a matter of time before somebody is killed," the Australia captain said. "You cannot risk blokes' safety for a game of cricket."

Organisers of the World Cup have held regular meetings over the past two years with the Association of Chief Police Officers and equivalent organisations in Scotland,



Campbell is run out after colliding with Julian in the moment that sparked the latest crowd disturbances

Ireland and Holland, where a total of four matches are scheduled.

"We have planned for every contingency," Browning said. "As new issues come to our attention, we are prepared to take them into consideration, but so far nothing has happened that we have not thought about and discussed previously."

The latest episodes follow scenes in Calcutta two months ago when 50,000 spectators had to be evacuated from Eden Gardens before a Test match between India and

suggested that it would be more constructive to implement measures to prevent problems arising at source.

Difficulties arose in Barbados when Sherwin Campbell, playing on his home ground, was run out after colliding with Brendon Julian, the Australia bowler. The touring side, however, are more concerned with a pitch invasion in Guyana five days earlier, when Subba Row had to adjudicate the match as a tie.

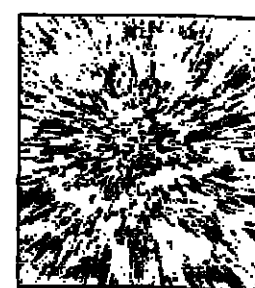
Michael Hogan, a spokesman for the Australia Cricket Board, said: "We will not be going to Guyana again unless things change. Barbados is not quite the same situation as the Bajans are very enthusiastic and easy-going cricket lovers." Sources in Guyana have suggested that problems materialised because demand for tickets outstripped supply.

Tim May, the president of the Australia Cricketers' Association, said that grounds failing to meet required standards should be stripped of matches and that venues should be rated with a risk factor. "It is not just confined to the West Indies," May said. "India has problems and we have a problem [in Australia] with golf balls being thrown, while I have played in New Zealand when there has been trouble."

Although the ICC is empowered to suspend international cricket at any venue, Richards executive, said: "What has happened is unacceptable. Although the ICC is empowered to suspend international cricket at any venue, Richards

Students given six pack

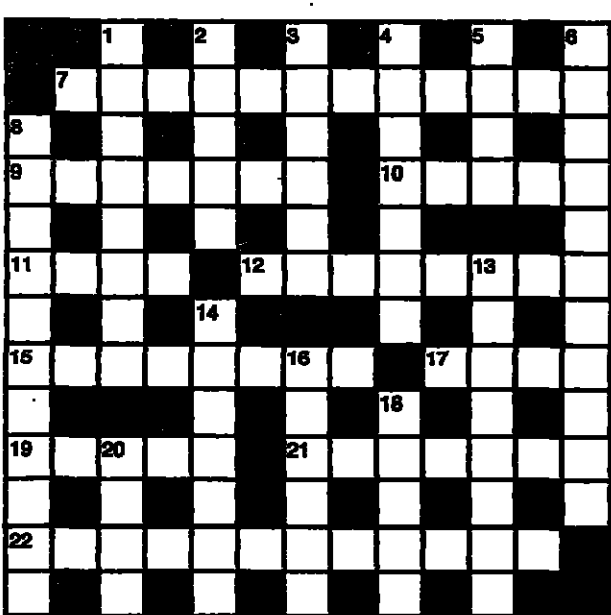
THE England and Wales Cricket Board announced six University Centres of Cricketing Excellence yesterday (Richard Hobson writes). Oxford Brookes University, the former polytechnic, featured in the Oxford bid, while Cambridge applied jointly with the Anglia Polytechnic University, Durham and Loughborough have also been chosen, plus a cluster of universities from Bradford and Leeds and a grouping from Wales. They will compete in a round-robin, two-day championship and play three matches each against first-class counties, which represents a cutback in fixtures against first-class opposition for Oxford and Cambridge.



THE END OF A LONG RUN

The last of the 30,508 finishers in the 1999 Flora London Marathon, a results listing exclusive to The Times, breaks the tape on page 25

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1702

ACROSS

- 7 Concede to majority (4,4,4)
9 Powerful, fervent (7)
10 Long narrow top (5)
11 Drink carrier: sounds like feature (4)
12 Sunken continent (8)
15 Deep (ice) fissure (8)
17 Ring of light (4)
19 To deposit: gatehouse (5)
21 Loss of memory (7)
22 Hurry up! (slang) (4,2,6)

DOWN

- 1 Phoenician city, Rome rival (8)
2 Side (of animal, army) (5)
3 Swamp damagingly in (6)
4 Diary, magazine (7)
5 Intelligence object to (4)
6 Final eg hymn: Kipling poem (11)
8 Subversive group (5,6)
13 Wing of church (8)
14 Athlete's spear (7)
16 Thinly scattered (6)
18 Relative by marriage (2,3)
20 Embankment; ditch (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1701

- ACROSS: 1 Shaft 7 Hallway 8 Barrage 9 Twinkle
11 Rapier 13 Languor/doc 15 Crow's feet 19 Robust
21 Quarrel 23 Impulse 24 Cheerio 25 Rufus
DOWN: 1 Sober 2 Abrupt 3 Travel 4 Whet 5 Plunge
6 Balloon 10 Wagner 12 Raffle 14 Fraught 16 Warder
17 Torpor 18 Put off 20 Teens 22 Lion

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

NEW TIMES CROSSWORD BOOK AVAILABLE!
The Times Two Crosswords Book is now available at £3.50 inc. p&g. Call 0900 134 459 for credit card orders, or send a cheque payable to News Books, to The Times Bookshop, PO Box 345, Falmouth TR11 2YX

ZENITH
Swiss watchmakers since 1865
LIFE IS IN THE MOVEMENT

FLY-BACK
El Primero



FOR YOUR
NEAREST STOCKIST
FREEPHONE 0800 731 8741

ZENITH TIME CO. (GB) LTD
INTERNET: www.zenithwatches.co.uk/watches